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THE ORIGINAL MAGAZINE DEDICATED TO NEBRASKA ATHLETICS

HUSKERS

ILLUSTRATED

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OVERTIME DARE BADGER BACK HELPS HAND NU FIRST LOSS



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VISITING SAM FOLTZ CRASH SITE WAS A SOMBER EXPERIENCE

AS WE LEFT MADISON ON SATURDAY MORNING AND HEADED EAST TOWARD MERTON, WIS. HUSKERS ILLUSTRATED PHOTOGRAPHERS MICHAEL SPOMER AND JIMMY RASH AND MYSELF PUNCHED IN BEAVER LAKE ROAD IN MERTON, WIS. INTO OUR GPS SYSTEM.

It showed that we needed to head east about 50 miles down Interstate 94 toward Milwaukee before turning off at the exit for Delafield and Hartland and then heading north.

This had to be a similar scenario that Sam Foltz, Mike Sadler and LSU kicker Colby Delahoussaye had done back on July 23 as they punched in the GPS coordinates for former Wisconsin kicker Drew Meyer's home outside of Merton. They were to spend the night there with Meyer, Nebraska kicker Drew Brown and the Meyer family after leaving a gathering after a kicking camp they were all at Wales High School.

County Road E is a quiet, winding blacktop country road, one you would expect to see outside of most towns in Nebraska. Then we turned on to Beaver Lake Road, which led back into a treed area with acreages and large residential lots. This was where Foltz was headed the night he died.

We got about a half mile on this road when we saw a yellow sign that said 20 mph and the symbol for a hair pin turn ahead. Jimmy commented to Mike that he was going about 40 mph. Then we came around the turn and down a slight grade and there it was right ahead of us - two white crosses planted in the ground and a make shift memorial for Foltz and Sadler around a utility pole.

It was surreal to be at this site, but yet easily understandable how at night and in rainy conditions that a vehicle could go off this road with no shoulders or guard-rail at that particular point.

We parked down the road a few hun-

dred feet and as we were walking back up the hill, a woman in a Wisconsin vehicle slowed. Seeing that I was wearing a Nebraska hat, she commented that she was very sorry for our loss and indicated that she was a neighbor of the Meyer family. She continued saying how sorry she was.

A short while later, Roger Hoge, who lives in the closest home to the accident scene, drove up and pulled off to the side of the road.

"I drive by this every day," the elder Hoge said shaking his head in disbelief that it happened so close to his home. "There are always people stopping by to pay their respects."

Hoge gave his condolences, and then offered to take a photograph of all of us, the real reason he had stopped.

There was a Michigan State hat nailed to the utility pole, so before we left, I took off my red Husker hat I was wearing and left it on the red N that read RIP Foltz#27.

A short time later the sun broke through for the first time that morning.

As we were leaving, I noticed across the way from the accident scene was a worn, yellow no hunting, no fishing, no trespassing sign. This definitely wasn't the place or time Foltz was supposed to go.

Before heading back to Madison, we grabbed breakfast at a local restaurant and our waitress was named Sammy.

Too crazy.

During the game later that night, one couldn't help but think Foltz had some influence on a missed field goal and missed extra point gave his former teammates chances to win in Madison for the first time since 1955. When NU called Foltz for the overtime toss and the coin landed Foltz, it meant NU had the ball last.

"It felt like the stars were starting to align," Brown said. "Unfortunately, it wasn't that way."



A memorial has been created at the site where Sam Foltz and Mike Sadler near Merton, Wis.



Darren Ivy, Michael Spomer and Jimmy Rash stand behind the make shift memorial.



This is the stretch of road leading to where Sam Foltz and Mike Sadler died in an accident



Darren Ivy's red hat was left behind at the site.

HUSKERS ILLUSTRATED

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The next Huskers Illustrated edition, featuring the Ohio State recap and the Minnesota preview will mail on Monday, Nov. 7.



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BY KEVIN HOUCK

Reilly grew up a hockey player, enjoys watching Mark Wahlberg movies and listening to Justin Bieber music.

2016 FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	TIME	TV/SCORE
SEPT. 3	FRESNO STATE	MEMORIAL STADIUM	7P.M.	W, 43-10
SEPT. 10	WYOMING	MEMORIAL STADIUM	11A.M.	W, 52-17
SEPT. 17	OREGON	MEMORIAL STADIUM	2:30P.M.	W, 35-32
SEPT. 24	@NORTHWESTERN	EVANSTON, ILLINOIS	6:30P.M.	W, 24-13
OCT. 1	ILLINOIS	MEMORIAL STADIUM	2:30P.M.	W, 31-16
OCT. 15	@INDIANA	BLOOMINGTON, INDIANA	2:30P.M.	W, 27-22
OCT. 22	PURDUE	MEMORIAL STADIUM	2:30P.M.	W, 27-14
OCT. 29	@WISCONSIN	MADISON, WISCONSIN	6P.M.	L, 23-17 OT
NOV. 5	@OHIO STATE	COLUMBUS, OHIO	7P.M.	ABC/ESPN
NOV. 12	MINNESOTA	MEMORIAL STADIUM	6:30 P.M.	BTN
NOV. 19	MARYLAND	MEMORIAL STADIUM	TBA	TBA
NOV. 25	@IOWA	IOWA CITY, IOWA	TBA	TBA

ALL GAMES ARE CST



ON THE COVER

A dejected Michael Rose-Ivey partially hides his head in a towel as he walks off the field Saturday night following the Huskers' 23-17 overtime loss at Camp Randall Stadium. Wisconsin got the ball first in overtime and running Dare Ogunbawale gashed the Nebraska defense for an 11-yard touchdown in and finished with more than 100 yards in the game. The Huskers failed to complete a fourth down pass to go down for the first time this season.

PHOTO BY JIMMY RASH/HUSKERS ILLUSTRATED



RECRUITING NOTEBOOK

BY MICHAEL SCHAEFER

RECRUITING EDITOR

HUSKERSILLUSTRATED.COM

Bet with father motivates Robert Porcher IV

Want to motivate a 6-foot-3, 245-pound three-star defensive lineman? Promise a tattoo in exchange for a high school sack record — at least that's how it worked for Robert Porcher IV.

"I made a bet with my dad about breaking the record," he said. "I've always wanted a tattoo but my dad (former Detroit Lions star Robert Porcher) doesn't like them. So he made me a bet about three weeks ago. He told me if I break the sack record I can get a tattoo after the season."

When the bet was made Porcher IV estimates he was still at least eight sacks away, so after the proposition he had to turn it on to get the ink.

Now that Porcher IV has the green light, he doesn't even know what he wants a tattoo of yet, but he makes sure to let his father know that it's going to eventually happen.

The Nebraska commit set the sack record with one regular season game to go and the opportunity to add to it in the postseason. Against Olympia last Friday, Porcher IV finished with four sacks to set the record and now has 27 sacks in his career.

The lineman has turned his attention to the single-season sack record next and said he needs five to break it — which means there might be another bet.

"I don't know what kind of bet I'll make with him for it," he said. "We'll do something."

Porcher IV said he feels like offseason work helped put him in this position, but also



Robert Porcher IV, right, will soon be getting a tattoo after winning a bet with his father.

preached patience. That's been his biggest takeaway from his own success, looking for an opportunity to make a play, not forcing a mistake.

"You want to rush, but you don't want to over do it, end up going to fast and letting a quarterback come inside," he said. "I play it patient. I want to beat my guy first and then worry about getting the sack. I feel like it's about team defense. It's not all about me. When it's time to rush, I'm rushing, but it's probably different for everybody."

Even with the game slowing down for him, it's not always easy for Porcher IV. He said he's starting to see more double teams, some chip blocking from running backs. At times it can be frustrating, but Porcher IV said he sees it as a compliment.

"I get frustrated when I get held or when I get double-teamed," he said. "Usually af-

ter I get a sack, I'll be getting double-teamed the rest of the game. It doesn't take me out of my game, but sometimes getting double-teamed or getting held pisses me off. Then again with other cases, I can still get sacks while doubled-teamed, so I'm going to talk smack."

Porcher IV's strong play has a number of teams continuing to recruit him, despite his commitment to Nebraska. The defender even took an official visit to Michigan in October.

"It was good, it was a different experience, but again everybody really likes their own school — Nebraska fans love Nebraska and the Michigan fans they love Michigan," he said. "It was good. It was a little different because my dad played for Detroit, so all these fans were asking if I was coming there. I liked it though. It was cool."

Porcher IV said the visits were a little different because at Nebraska he saw the whole campus, he spent time in other buildings, but at Michigan he was mostly at the football or athletic facilities.

"I didn't have a chance to see everything at Michigan, but it was nice," he said.

Despite the trip up to see the Wolverines, Porcher IV said he's still very much a Cornhusker and prior to the trip he talked with defensive line coach John Parrella about where he was at with his commitment.

"He was telling me how I can take my trips and then he was telling me how he knows most of the coaching staff over there," Porcher IV said. "Coach Parrella told me to let Michigan know that now that he's beating them for me. He was just joking around and stuff. He also wanted to make sure I was still 100 percent with Nebraska and I told him that I am."

Porcher IV also said he plans to get to a Nebraska away game this season, but if it doesn't fit in the schedule, he'll go back to Lincoln for an unofficial.

The official visits likely won't end with Michigan though. Porcher IV said he's going to take other official visits but he hasn't narrowed anything down yet.

"I think I'm going to end up taking all of them just to have the experience," he said. "I don't know where I'm going to go. I'm going to take the rest though. I only have three more."

N

BY MICHAEL BRUNTZ

STATE OF THE HUSKERS

Huskers make strides, still come up short



Read daily Husker reports from Michael Bruntz at HuskersIllustrated.com
Follow him on Twitter @michaelbruntz

MADISON, Wis. – Nebraska's players and coaches slowly walked off the Camp Randall Stadium field looking a bit dazed as Wisconsin's players celebrated the win and fans went crazy in the stands.

The Huskers had come from behind once again thanks to a strong second-half effort that made for a nervous fourth quarter rendition of 'Jump Around' for the Badger faithful.

But the bend-don't-break defense finally relented in overtime, and the offensive inconsistency that Nebraska had been fighting all game finally bit the Huskers when it mattered.

This was supposed to be a big test for the Top-10 Huskers against a worthy, ranked opponent. Nebraska didn't pass the test in the win-loss column, but we learned Saturday night that there might be something different about this Nebraska team, compared with the others who had come to Madison and left with embarrassing double-digit losses.

"It's really, really disappointing to lose it," Nebraska head coach Mike Riley said after the game. "Everything I know about our team is confirmed. They will continue to fight. We have to improve some things to finish out where we want to. As far as what we have to work with, it's all good."

The post-game interviews after this game felt different.

The players feeling they left a win on the field. A handful of plays and missed opportunities that led to Nebraska falling to 7-1 on the season.

As Nebraska's players paused in front of cameras and microphones on the way to the team buses, there seemed to be a mix of anger and disappointment.

Disappointment because a Nebraska team playing with a patchwork offensive line in one of the Big Ten's toughest environments let the game slip away in the fourth quarter.

The Huskers forced two key turnovers, but following one of the turnovers, Nebraska started in Wisconsin territory and came away with no points. A drive at the end of the game

stalled and the Huskers had to settle for a game-tying field goal.

Even in overtime when Wisconsin scored first, but missed the extra point, Stanley Morgan nearly hauled in a pass on fourth down that could have given Nebraska the win.

This game wasn't about moral victories – definitely not. But it's hard not to see growth in the program in games like this. A change in attitude. Bowing up on defense when Wisconsin had an opportunity to take control of the game in the third quarter.

"We kept our poise when we were down in the fourth quarter," Riley said. "That did not deter us from getting back into it. We didn't get the final result we had been getting, but we got to the point where we could have."

That is so much fun to be a part of a group like that. They don't blink, they have poise and they persevere. We gave ourselves a chance to win against a good football team, but didn't quite get it done."

Nebraska was oh-so-close to taking commanding control of the Big Ten West division. A win on Saturday would have all but punched the Huskers' ticket to Indianapolis for the Big Ten Championship game. Now, Nebraska faces a tough task of winning on the road against Ohio State with Wisconsin suddenly breathing down its neck in the tighter conference standings.

After the game, Tommy Armstrong Jr. and Jordan Westerkamp talked about the game, and how to move forward for another key game despite the disappointment of Saturday's loss.

"We're going to be better from this game," Westerkamp said.

Saturday's loss will be the kind that will nag players and coaches months from now in the offseason.

A play here or there. A missed chance to seize momentum. No matter how you spin it, a loss is a loss.

Building character and reshaping a program is hard, and sometimes painful work, but Nebraska may have proven something to itself despite Saturday's loss.

"We're a bunch of fighters, and I'm proud of how we played tonight," senior safety Nate Gerry said.

"It's really, really disappointing to lose it. Everything I know about our team is confirmed. They will continue to fight. We have to improve some things to finish out where we want to. As far as what we have to work with, it's all good."

Mike Riley
Nebraska head coach



10 questions

with **Brandon Reilly**

Story by Kevin Houck • Photos by Joe Mixan

Q: If you could be any cartoon character, which one would you pick and why?

A: "That's tough. I would say the Tasmanian Devil because he runs everywhere. Seems to fit there."

Q: Besides football, what other sports do you really pay attention to?

A: "Hockey. It's all I played growing up. I am big into hockey and I like to golf in the offseason."

Q: If you could witness any era, what era would you pick?

A: "There's some interesting ones but I kind of like this era. There's a lot of interesting things going on. I'll stick to this one."

Q: What food can you not stand?

A: "Guacamole because I can't get myself to try it. It just looks awful every time I look at it."

Q: Are you a bigger fan of Lord of the Rings or Harry Potter?

A: "You know, I am actually not big into either but I'd have to probably say 'Lord of the Rings'. I just never got interested in either of them."

Q: What's your favorite time of the year?

A: "I feel like the right answer should be football season but you know, summertime is never a bad time. I like to golf and stuff plus it's nice out"

Q: What would you do with your earning if you won the Lottery?

A: "I would probably take all my good friends on a vacation for a couple weeks. Just not tell anyone and get away and then see what my parents and brother want and get that for them."

Q: What would the toppings on your ideal pizza be?

A: "I'm a big Hawaiian Pizza kind of guy. Canadian bacon, pineapple and stuff like that. Can't go wrong with that."

Q: Who is your favorite actor?

A: "Easy, Mark Wahlberg. I just think he's just a savage at acting and producing films."

Q: Is there a song, person, quote or anything you lean on in tough times?

A: "A little Justin Bieber. You can never go wrong with that."





Wisconsin 23, Nebraska 17 OT



Stanley Morgan Jr. stiff arms Wisconsin safety Leo Musso after making a catch.

Madison Curse Continues for NU

Nebraska outscores Badgers 10-0 in fourth, stalls in overtime

Story by Kevin Houck • Photos by Michael Spomer and Jimmy Rash

Nebraska went head-to-head with Wisconsin for all four quarters unlike the past two trips to Madison. Despite quarterback Tommy Armstrong's shaky performance through the first three quarters and an impressive performance from the Blackshirts, the Huskers tied the game late in the fourth quarter to head to overtime.

But it was all Wisconsin in overtime. A rushing touchdown put Wisconsin ahead and a stop by the Badgers' defense on fourth down helped them prevail 23-17 Saturday night at Camp Randall Stadium.

"Everything about our team I know is confirmed, which is we continued to fight and we certainly got to improve on some things," Nebraska coach Mike Riley said. "We can finish where we want to. There's no doubt about it."

After three-straight punts to start the game, Wisconsin was the first to strike. A 24-yard punt return by running back Corey Clement, set up running back Bradrick Shaw two plays later with a 21-yard rushing touchdown with 9:38 left in the first quarter.

The Huskers marched down the field setting up a first-and-10 at the Wisconsin 45-yard line with 2:58 left in the first quarter but quarterback Tommy Armstrong overthrew wide receiver Alonzo Moore and the ball was intercepted by cornerback Sojourn Shelton at the Wisconsin 9-yard line.

Wisconsin went three-and-out on the ensuing drive and then a 15-yard punt return by wide receiver DeMornay Pierson-El to the Wisconsin 42-yard line gave the Huskers good field position.

Nebraska capitalized on the six-play, 42-yard drive with a one-yard rushing touchdown by running back Devine Ozigbo to tie the game at 7-7 with 13:41 remaining in the first half.

On Nebraska's next drive, Armstrong was picked off for the second time in the first half. This time the ball was tipped at the line of scrimmage and the pass was intercepted by cornerback D'Cota Dixon at the 50-yard line.

Wisconsin capitalized on the turnover with a 44-yard field goal by kicker Andrew Endicott to put the Badgers up with 6:53 left in the first half.

After each team traded punts, Wisconsin went into halftime with a 10-7 lead.

Wisconsin opened the second half and used crossing routes to engineer a 13-play, 73-yard drive ending with a nine-yard touchdown pass from quarterback Alex Hornibrook to wide receiver Robert Wheelwright to extend the lead to 17-7 Badgers.

Armstrong marched Nebraska down the field after both teams again traded punts. Armstrong capped a 14-play, 75-yard drive with a two-yard rushing touchdown less than two minutes into the fourth quarter.



Tommy Armstrong Jr. gets upended, but still was able to make a first down on this play.

Safety Nate Gerry intercepted Hornibrook on Wisconsin's next drive and returned the interception to the Badgers 46-yard line but the offense went three-and-out to give the ball back to Wisconsin.

"That was a really disappointing series," Riley said. "There's no doubt about it. It felt like such a big opportunity for our team and to get nothing it was pretty scary to the outcome of the game. That's what it felt like."

Again Gerry came up big for the Blackshirts with his second interception of the game. This time Gerry picked off quarterback Bart Houston at the Huskers' 30-yard line.

And this time the Husker offense took advantage. A 35-yard field goal by Brown tied the game at 17 with 3:43 left in the game.

"I tried to treat it like every other kick," kicker Drew Brown said. "You try not to put too much pressure on yourself. I just tried to keep everything contained and make the kick."

On the first play of Wisconsin's next drive, Clement took the ball through the left end for 41 yards to the Husker 25-yard line. The Blackshirts stopped Wis-

consin the next three plays for force a 45-yard field goal by Endicott and the kick went just left of the uprights.

Nebraska couldn't put itself in field goal range as a long pass to Brandon Reilly on third down was broke up and Wisconsin forced a punt with 16 seconds left.

The Badgers took a knee to head to overtime with 17-17 tie.

The Badgers started with ball first in overtime and running back Dare Ogunbowale ran around the left side for a 11-yard touchdown. Endicott missed the extra point to make the score 23-17.

"He hit the two plays that hurt us," defensive coordinator Mark Banker said. "Obviously that draw play and the sweep to win."

The Husker offense stalled when they took over possession. Armstrong on fourth-and-8, rolled out to his right and threw the ball towards the back right corner of the endzone to Stanley Morgan Jr. but the pass was batted down in the endzone to give Wisconsin the win.

"It wasn't ideal but it had a shot," Riley said about the fourth down play. "We were in a hole and their guy made a nice play but we had a shot."



Nate Gerry throws the bones after an interception.



Nathan Gerry returns one of his two interceptions in the game.

NU unable to fully capitalize on Gerry's picks

STORY BY BOB HAMAR | PHOTO BY JIMMY RASH

Senior safety Nate Gerry gave Nebraska a chance Saturday night, but the Huskers didn't take advantage of it.

Gerry had two interceptions in the fourth quarter. Although the Huskers did come back to tie the game and force overtime before falling 23-17, they didn't take full advantage of the opportunities Gerry gave them.

His first interception in the fourth gave the Huskers the ball on the Wisconsin 46. But the Huskers went three-and-out with 11:38 left in the fourth quarter.

"That was really a disappointing series," Nebraska coach Mike Riley said. "There's no doubt about it. It felt like such a big opportunity for our team and

then to get nothing there was pretty scary as to the outcome of the game. I mean, that's what it felt like."

Nebraska quarterback Tommy Armstrong Jr., who completed just 12-of-31 passes for 153 yards with two first-half interceptions, said the Huskers let some scoring opportunities slip away.

"There were a few times we didn't capitalize," Armstrong said. "We got to make sure when we get a situation like that, we put points on the board."

The Huskers also had a chance in overtime after the Badgers had scored on an 11-yard run by Dare Ogunbowale. Wisconsin kicker Andrew Endicott missed the extra point, leaving the door open for the Huskers.

Terrell Newby gained two yards on two runs to the Wisconsin 23. Armstrong

missed on a pass to Jordan Westerkamp on third down. Westerkamp ended up on the ground on the play.

"It looked like it to me, but I don't know," Riley said when asked if Westerkamp had been interfered with on the play. "I didn't have the greatest vantage point, so I don't know if it's really necessary for me to comment any further."

On fourth down, Armstrong lofted a pass into the end zone to Stanley Morgan Jr. but safety D'Cota Dixon knocked it away to end Nebraska's eight-game winning streak.

"The last play, we had it," Nebraska offensive coordinator Danny Langsdorf said. "Stanley was in a double move. We needed to get it (the pass) up a little quicker."



Tommy Armstrong Jr, Terrell Newby and Zack Darlington led the team onto the field at Wisconsin.

Perfect ending slips away as Wisconsin 'D' holds

STORY BY BOB HAMAR | PHOTO BY JIMMY RASH

It seemed like everything was setting up perfectly for Nebraska Saturday night against Wisconsin. With the game tied late in regulation, Wisconsin kicker Andrew Endicott missed 45-yard field goal with 1:43 left that would have given the Badgers the lead.

Then, after an 11-yard run by Dare Ogunbowale gave the Badgers the lead in overtime, Endicott missed the extra point and Wisconsin had a 23-17 lead.

That seemed to give the Huskers the opening they needed in a stadium not far from where Husker kicker Sam Foltz was killed in an auto accident this summer.

"The entire team felt it," Nebraska kicker Drew Brown said. "When the missed the

field goal at the end and missed the extra point, I thought it was destiny. But you have to give credit to Wisconsin. Their defense stepped up in overtime."

Nebraska defensive coordinator Mark Banker felt it too.

"When they missed the extra point, it was a little bit of a reprieve, but in those overtime situations what you're hoping to do is if you don't hold them to nothing, you want to hold them to a field goal," Banker said. "So the damage had been done. We put our offense in a tough position where they had to score a touchdown."

This close loss to a good team on the road might just earn the Huskers a little respect which some felt they haven't been

getting.

On the other hand, linebacker Michael Rose-Ivey said they shouldn't worry what people are saying.

"We don't want to get caught up in what people were thinking, but if we earned some people's (respect), so be it," Rose-Ivey said. "For us, we want to focus on long-term goals. Everything is still there for us. It hurts, definitely. Being a competitor, it hurts, but there is still a long season to go."

Banker said it wasn't a moral victory. There aren't really moral victories in big-time college football.

"Whatever you win by, whatever you lose by, it's just that," Banker said. "It's a win or a loss. That's the thing that counts. The bottom line."

Wisconsin 23, Nebraska 17 OT

Oct. 29, 2016 at Camp Randall Stadium in Madison, Wis.

Attendance: 80,833

Score by Quarters	1	2	3	4	OT	Total
Nebraska	0	7	0	10	0	17
Wisconsin	7	3	7	0	6	23

Qtr	Time	Scoring Play	V-H
1st	09:38	WIS - Shaw, Bradrick 21 yd run (Endicott, A. kick), 2-51 0:43	0 - 7
2nd	13:41	NEB - Ozigbo, Devine 1 yd run (Brown, Drew kick), 6-42 2:12	7 - 7
	06:53	WIS - Endicott, A. 44 yd field goal, 7-25 3:18	7 - 10
3rd	08:17	WIS - Wheelwright, R. 9 yd pass from Hornibrook, A. (Endicott, A. kick), 13-73 6:36	7 - 17
4th	13:45	NEB - Armstrong Jr. 2 yd run (Brown, Drew kick), 14-75 5:58	14 - 17
	03:43	NEB - Brown, Drew 35 yd field goal, 11-52 5:53	17 - 17
OT	15:00	WIS - Ogunbowale, D. 11 yd run (Endicott, A. kick failed), 9-0 0:08	17 - 23



Devine Ozigbo dives across the goal line for Nebraska's first touchdown of the game. He gets congratulated by Dylan Utter.



Tommy Armstrong Jr. has his eyes up as he races down the field.



Ross Dzuris does a swim move to try and get to the Wisconsin quarterback.

Team Statistics

	NEB	WIS
FIRST DOWNS	16	16
Rushing	7	9
Passing	9	7
Penalty	0	0
NET YARDS RUSHING	152	223
Rushing Attempts	44	38
Average Per Rush	3.5	5.9
Rushing Touchdowns	2	2
Yards Gained Rushing	162	234
Yards Lost Rushing	10	11
NET YARDS PASSING	153	114
Completions-Attempts-Int	12-31-2	14-23-2
Average Per Attempt	4.9	5.0
Average Per Completion	12.8	8.1
Passing Touchdowns	0	1
TOTAL OFFENSE YARDS	305	337
Total offense plays	75	61
Average Gain Per Play	4.1	5.5
Fumbles: Number-Lost	0-0	0-0
Penalties: Number-Yards	2-10	1-5
PUNTS-YARDS	7-291	6-230
Average Yards Per Punt	41.6	38.3
Net Yards Per Punt	35.3	32.3
Inside 20	3	0
50+ Yards	1	0
Touchbacks	1	0
Fair catch	3	1
KICKOFFS-YARDS	4-255	4-260
Average Yards Per Kickoff	63.8	65.0
Net Yards Per Kickoff	40.0	44.0
Touchbacks	2	2
Punt returns: Number-Yards-TD	4-36-0	1-24-0
Average Per Return	9.0	24.0
Kickoff returns: Number-Yds-TD	2-34-0	2-45-0
Average Per Return	17.0	22.5
Interceptions: Number-Yds-TD	2-10-0	2-5-0
Fumble Returns: Number-Yds-TD	0-0-0	0-0-0
Miscellaneous Yards	0	0
Possession Time	32:23	27:37
1st Quarter	9:04	5:56
2nd Quarter	7:23	7:37
3rd Quarter	6:13	8:47
4th Quarter	9:43	5:17
OT Quarter	0:00	0:00
Third-Down Conversions	9 of 18	5 of 13
Fourth-Down Conversions	0 of 1	0 of 0
Red-Zone Scores-Chances	3-4	1-1
Touchdowns	2-4	1-1
Field goals	1-4	0-1
Sacks By: Number-Yards	2-10	1-8
PAT Kicks	2-2	2-3
Field Goals	1-1	1-2
Points off turnovers	3	3



JIMMY RASH/HUSKERS ILLUSTRATED

Left: Alonzo Moore tries to break up an interception catch by Sojourn Shelton after Tommy Armstrong Jr. overthrew him in the first half. Above: Lineman Tanner Farmer had to be taken off the field on a cart after suffering a leg injury in the first half.

Individual Statistics

Nebraska

Rushing	No.	Gain	Loss	Net	TD	Lg	Avg
Newby, Terrell	17	78	1	77	0	19	4.5
Armstrong Jr.	13	47	8	39	1	10	3.0
Ozigbo, Devine	10	33	0	33	1	16	3.3
Pierson-El, D.	1	2	0	2	0	2	2.0
Wilbon, Mikale	2	2	0	2	0	2	1.0
Westerkamp, J.	1	0	1	-1	0	0	-1.0
Totals	44	162	10	152	2	19	3.5

Passing	C-A-I	Yds	TD	Long	Sack
Armstrong Jr.	12-31-2	153	0	36	1
Totals	12-31-2	153	0	36	1

Receiving	No.	Yards	TD	Long
Morgan Jr., S.	5	58	0	25
Westerkamp, J.	3	62	0	36
Reilly, Brandon	2	19	0	11
Pierson-El, D.	1	14	0	14
Newby, Terrell	1	0	0	0
Totals	12	153	0	36

Punting	No.	Yds	Avg	Long	In20	TB
Lightbourn, C.	7	291	41.6	51	3	1
Totals	7	291	41.6	51	3	1

Returns	Punt			Kickoff			Intercept		
	No	Yds	Lg	No	Yds	Lg	No	Yds	Lg
Pierson-El, D.	4	36	15	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bryant, Tre	0	0	0	2	34	19	0	0	0
Gerry, Nathan	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	10	10
Totals	4	36	15	2	34	19	2	10	10

Field goals	Qtr	Time	Dist	Result
Brown, Drew	4th	03:43	35 yards	Good

Kickoffs	No.	Yards	Avg	TB	OB
Brown, Drew	4	255	63.8	2	0

All-purpose	Run	Rcv	KR	PR	IR	Total
Newby, Terrell	77	0	0	0	0	77
Westerkamp, J.	-1	62	0	0	0	61
Morgan Jr., S.	0	58	0	0	0	58
Pierson-El, D.	2	14	0	36	0	52

Wisconsin

Rushing	No.	Gain	Loss	Net	TD	Lg	Avg
Ogunbowale, D.	11	120	0	120	1	39	10.9
Clement, Corey	19	82	0	82	0	41	4.3
Shaw, Bradrick	2	23	0	23	1	21	11.5
Wheelwright, R.	1	6	0	6	0	6	6.0
Peavy, Jazz	1	2	0	2	0	2	2.0
Ingold, Alec	1	1	0	1	0	1	1.0
Team	1	0	1	-1	0	0	-1.0
Houston, Bart	2	0	10	-10	0	0	-5.0
Totals	38	234	11	223	2	41	5.9

Passing	C-A-I	Yds	TD	Long	Sack
Hornibrook, A.	10-16-1	71	1	30	0
Houston, Bart	4-7-1	43	0	16	2
Totals	14-23-2	114	1	30	2

Receiving	No.	Yards	TD	Long
Wheelwright, R.	5	43	1	16
Fumagalli, Troy	4	48	0	30
Peavy, Jazz	3	25	0	12
Ramesh, Austin	1	-1	0	0
Ogunbowale, D.	1	-1	0	0
Totals	14	114	1	30

Punting	No.	Yds	Avg	Long	In20	TB
Lotti, Anthony	5	196	39.2	49	0	0
Rosowski, P.J.	1	34	34.0	34	0	0
Totals	6	230	38.3	49	0	0

Returns	Punt			Kickoff			Intercept		
	No	Yds	Lg	No	Yds	Lg	No	Yds	Lg
Clement, Corey	1	24	24	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ogunbowale, D.	0	0	0	2	45	25	0	0	0
Shelton, S.	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Dixon, D'Cota	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	5	5
Totals	1	24	24	2	45	25	2	5	5

Field goals	Qtr	Time	Dist	Result
Endicott, A.	2nd	06:53	44 yards	Good
Endicott, A.	4th	01:43	45 yards	Missed

Kickoffs	No.	Yards	Avg	TB	OB
Rosowski, P.J.	4	260	65.0	2	0

All-purpose	Run	Rcv	KR	PR	IR	Total
Ogunbowale, D.	120	-1	45	0	0	164
Clement, Corey	82	0	0	24	0	106
Wheelwright, R.	6	43	0	0	0	49
Fumagalli, Troy	0	48	0	0	0	48



Left: Aaron Williams comes up to put a lick on Wisconsin's Corey Clement. Above: Chris Jones picks up Badger receiver Robert Wheelright and tackles him to the ground.

Defensive Statistics

# Nebraska	Solo	Ast	Total	Sacks-Yds	TFL-Yds	FF	FR-Yds	Int-Yds	BrUp	Blks	QBH
1A Rose-Ivey, M.	6	2	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
52 Banderas, Josh	4	4	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 Gerry, Nathan	7	0	7	-	-	-	-	2-10	1	-	-
10 Kalu, Joshua	4	2	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
44 Stoltenberg, M.	2	4	6	1.0-3	1-3	-	-	-	-	-	-
8A Jones, Chris	5	0	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
24 Williams, Aaron	4	1	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 Young II, D.	3	0	3	-	1-1	-	-	-	-	-	-
55 Maurice, Kevin	0	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
26 Williams, K.	2	0	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1C Joseph, Boaz	1	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
13 Domann, JoJo	1	0	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
84 Cotton, Sam	1	0	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
96 Davis, Carlos	1	0	1	1.0-7	1-7	-	-	-	-	-	-
3 Newby, Marcus	1	0	1	-	1-1	-	-	-	1	-	-
73 Hahn, Sam	0	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	42	18	60	2.0-10	4-12	0	0-0	2-10	2	0	0

# Wisconsin	Solo	Ast	Total	Sacks-Yds	TFL-Yds	FF	FR-Yds	Int-Yds	BrUp	Blks	QBH
43 Connelly, Ryan	7	4	11	-	2-2	-	-	-	2	-	-
32 Jacobs, Leon	7	4	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 Dooley, Garret	4	3	7	1.0-8	1-8	-	-	-	-	-	-
53 Edwards, T.J.	5	1	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
19 Musso, Leo	4	2	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
47 Biegel, Vince	3	2	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
34 Obasih, Chikwe	3	2	5	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
8 Shelton, S.	2	2	4	-	-	-	-	1-0	2	-	-
36 Ferguson, Joe	2	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
42 Watt, T.J.	1	2	3	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
14 Dixon, D'Cota	0	3	3	-	-	-	-	1-5	1	-	-
25 Tindal, Derrick	2	0	2	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-
94 Sheehy, Conor	2	0	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
93 Rand, Garrett	1	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
31 Figaro, Lubern	1	0	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
11 Peavy, Jazz	1	0	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
23 Ogunbowale, D.	1	0	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
21 Farrar, A.	0	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
60 Udelhoven, C.	0	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
57 James, Alec	0	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Totals	46	30	76	1.0-8	3-10	0	0-0	2-5	10	0	1

RUSHING OFFENSE: Wisconsin came into Saturday's game with one of the nation's more heralded rushing defenses, and Nebraska ran for 152 yards on 44 carries against the Badgers. Nebraska head coach Mike Riley said after the game that he thought Nebraska could have gotten more against the Badgers had better decisions been made in the zone read game. Nebraska's offensive line was hampered once again by injuries – starter Tanner Farmer left the game in the first quarter with an ankle injury, and David Knevel and Nick Gates were battling sore ankles all game. Riley said after the game that both Terrell Newby and Devine Ozigbo were playing on sprained ankles as well. A gritty effort on the ground for the Huskers. – Michael Bruntz

B

PASSING OFFENSE: Nebraska's performance through the air against the Badgers likely won't make the offensive highlight video at the end of the season. A combination of factors – poor decisions, Wisconsin's secondary, poor protection and playcalling all added up to a forgettable night through the air. Tommy Armstrong finished 12-for-31 for 153 yards and two interceptions on the night, and the Huskers never found a rhythm through the air. While Nebraska and Wisconsin both traded interceptions, in a tight game, Nebraska can't afford to make the kinds of mistakes they did in the loss. – Michael Bruntz

D

RUSHING DEFENSE: The Husker rushing defense tackled well for the most part, but a handful of plays gave the Blackshirts issues. Dare Oguinbale finished with 11 carries for 120 yards and the clinching touchdown in overtime, while Nebraska made Corey Clement work for his yardage, notching 82 yards on 19 carries. Nebraska's front-seven held up well against the Badgers' offensive line, but it wasn't enough, as the Badgers finished with 5.9 yards per carry on the night. – Michael Bruntz

B-

PASSING DEFENSE: Wisconsin threw the two-headed quarterback combo of Alex Hornibrook and Bart Houston at the Huskers, and Nebraska was up to the challenge. The duo combined to finish 14-for-23 for 114 yards and two interceptions. Those two second-half interceptions by Nate Gerry helped give Nebraska a chance in the fourth quarter. Nebraska also managed two sacks against the Badgers' offensive line. – Michael Bruntz

A

KICKING/SPECIAL TEAMS: Nebraska needed to play Wisconsin even in special teams, and for the most part, Nebraska's special teams units played well. De'Mornay Pierson-El had four punt returns for 36 yards and looked close to breaking a few big plays. Punter Caleb Lightbourn averaged 41.6 yards on his seven punts and put three inside Wisconsin's 20-yard line. Drew Brown kicked a 35-yarder that tied the game in the fourth quarter. – Michael Bruntz

B+

Quoting Nebraska kicker Drew Brown on Sam Foltz influence:



"It really did feel like all the stars were starting to align there. I think everyone felt it. Unfortunately it wasn't that way. We will have to work hard and be ready the next time it happens."

THREE HUSKERS MOVE UP CHARTS

Quarterback Tommy Armstrong Jr. became the 11th player in Big Ten history to surpass 10,000 career yards of total offense. He now has 10,181 career yards of offense.

Armstrong is also 52 yards shy of Taylor Martinez's school record of 10,233 career yards of total offense.

That's not all for the senior. Armstrong's rushing touchdown in the fourth quarter put him at 87 career touchdowns, which is second all-time in Nebraska history. He trails former Heisman Trophy winner Eric Crouch by three touchdowns for all-time lead.

Safety Nate Gerry's two interceptions puts him at 13 in his career, which is tied with Josh Bullocks for second all-time in Husker history. Dana Stephenson's 14 career interceptions is the all-time leader.

"Man, I thought he's been playing a lot of good football," Nebraska Head Coach Mike Riley said. "Nate is a good physical football player that has a lot of football awareness. That's where you get into position to intercept those balls."

Wide receiver Jordan Westerkamp's three receptions puts him at 145 career receptions, passing Johnny Rodgers for third all-time in Husker history.

NU PLAYS WELL ON THIRD DOWNS ON BOTH SIDES OF BALL

Nebraska was able to convert offensive opportunities on third down and stopped Wisconsin's offense on third downs. The offense went 9-for-18 on third downs in the game.

"I thought our third down situations were pretty good," offensive coordinator Danny Langsdorf said. "There were some things we missed on but I think we ended up probably around 50 percent which is pretty good."

As for the defense they limited the Badgers to 5-of-13 on third down conversions.

"I thought once again we kept our poise," Nebraska Head Coach Mike Riley said. "They don't blink. They have poise, persevered and gave ourselves a chance to win against a good football team. We just didn't quite get it done."

ARMSTRONG JR. ENDURES SHAKY PERFORMANCE

Quarterback Tommy Armstrong had an inconsistent night but was clutch late in the game.

Despite throwing two interceptions and completing only four passes in the first half, Armstrong rushed for a touchdown and led the Husker offense on a drive to tie the game with a field goal.

The senior ended his night going 12-of-31 for 153 yards and two interceptions, adding 39 yards rushing and a touchdown to the night.

"I thought Tommy fought like crazy," Nebraska Head Coach Mike Riley said. "Especially in a close tight-knit game like this we will evaluate closely. Tommy played like Tommy. Competed like crazy. Made some plays when it looked like we were down and out. He competed and brought us back into it so that's how I'd summarize his night."

NU PLAYERS TOUGH IT OUT

A handful of Huskers suffered injuries during the game and played through the injury except right guard Tanner Farmer.

Farmer left the game and was carted off early in the first half with a leg injury. Wide receiver Jordan Westerkamp, Terrell Newby and Devine Ozigbo also all suffered injuries but continued to play. It is unknown the extent of Farmer's injury.

"Of course we lost Tanner Farmer pretty early on," Riley said. "Westy sprained his ankle a little bit. Devine did and Terrell Newby did too. So we will see about those guys but I think they continued to play through their injuries if I remember right."

THREE-AND-OUTS HALTED MOMENTUM FOR HUSKERS

During key moments during the game, the Huskers offense went three-and-out when they had chances to take over momentum in the game.

On the opening drive of the game, then the opening drive in the second half and after safety Nate Gerry's first interception the Huskers went three-and-out.

That was the way the game went for Nebraska. Too many inconsistent drives after the Huskers put together consistent drives on offense.

"We were inconsistent in that game," offensive coordinator Danny Langsdorf said. "We were up and down throughout the game. We need to fix that."

Passes were batted down at the line of scrimmage and Wisconsin cornerbacks often pressured wide receivers at the line of scrimmage, throwing off timing between the quarterback and receivers.

"They're good cover guys," Langsdorf said. "They change up the looks. They'll press you then bail and pull off and they will come up. They did a nice job of changing it up. They're physical. There's not much separation coming out of routes."



JIMMY RASH/HUSKERS ILLUSTRATED

Tommy Armstrong Jr. hands the ball to Terrell Newby.



JIMMY RASH/HUSKERS ILLUSTRATED

On the way to the Wisconsin game from Olathe, Kan., neighbors Dustin Berrie, Toni Berrie, Lori Grundy, Lindsay Winder, David Grundy and Shalis Winder stopped at the Field of Dreams movie site in Dyersville, Iowa. Winder, who graduated from Scottsbluff High, still wears his 1994-95 national championship ring he earned as an outside linebacker for the Huskers. Grundy's father went to Wisconsin so he was the lone Badger fan in the group.

Wisconsin 23
Nebraska 17



MICHAEL SPOMER/HUSKERS ILLUSTRATED



JIMMY RASH/HUSKERS ILLUSTRATED



MICHAEL SPOMER/HUSKERS ILLUSTRATED

Clockwise from above: Defensive lineman Carlos Davis brings down Wisconsin quarterback Bart Houston. Chris Jones looks on as linebacker Josh Banderas tackles Wisconsin wide receiver Jazz Peavy. Nate Gerry (25) and Josh Kalu celebrate one of Gerry's two interceptions as Banderas looks on.



MICHAEL SPOMER/HUSKERS ILLUSTRATED



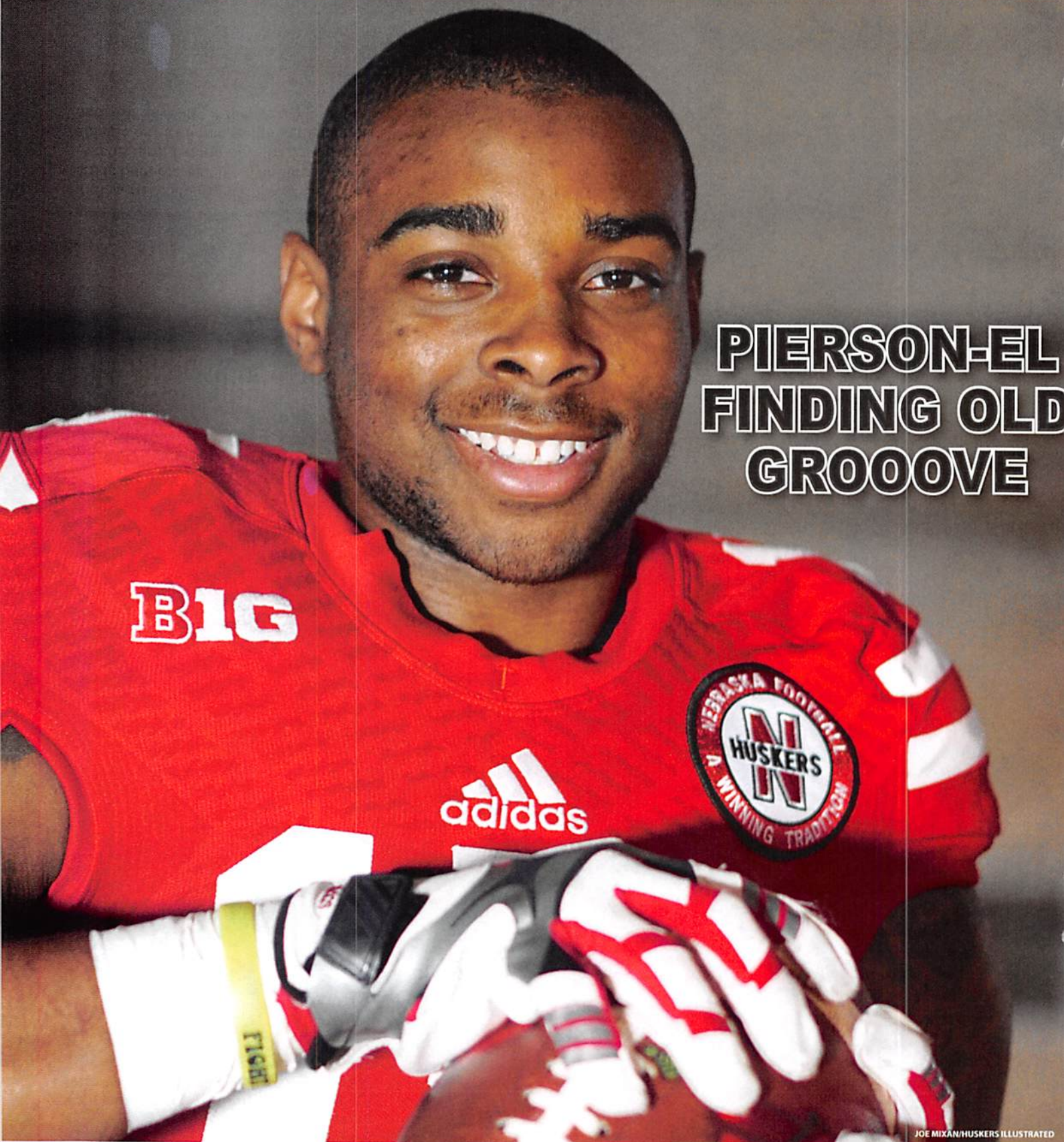
JIMMY RASH/HUSKERS ILLUSTRATED



JIMMY RASH/HUSKERS ILLUSTRATED

Clockwise from above: Wisconsin's Derrick Tindal knocks the ball away from NU wide receiver Brandon Reilly. Garrett Dooley brings down Tommy Armstrong Jr. NU players try to block a late field goal that Andrew Endicott ended up missing wide.

2MinuteDrill



PIERSON-EL
FINDING OLD
GROOOVE

JOE MIXAN/HUSKERS ILLUSTRATED

Compiled by Kevin Houck

Husker fans have been waiting for DeMornay Pierson-El's playmaking ability from his freshman year to come back into full swing.

Other than his 45-yard punt return against Oregon, Pierson-El has had a relatively quiet season through Nebraska's first-six games.

Up until against Purdue, his 40-yard touchdown reception against might have been his coming out party. The junior finished with three receptions for 69 yards in the game.

Pierson-El said each week he's gaining confidence to get back where he was after his freshman season, a second-team All-American.

"It's something I'm feeling," Pierson-El said. "For the most part, I'm just getting into my groove and I think everybody's starting to see it. It's just finally catching. Hopefully another week of preparation will have me right back in the same spot again."

The Alexandria, Va., native was out with a foot injury the first-four games of the season last year and then tore ligaments in his knee on Halloween against Purdue celebrating a touchdown in the endzone.

Nebraska Head Coach Mike Riley said he's seeing Pierson-El gain confidence every time he steps onto the practice field.

"I've loved watching him almost day-to-day gaining confidence, and you know, the neat thing is, you can just feel it in talking to him that he knows that's happening," Riley said. "He knows he feels good, that he's got his...I don't know if he thinks he's back to 100 percent or not, but I know he feels good about where he is. And we all have seen it."

Which is good feeling for the Huskers. Pierson-El was cleared to practice at the start of fall camp but the mental side slow played his return to the field. To the point where a redshirt year for him was a possibility.

"I really didn't know personally what was best to do," Riley said. "I was going to leave it to him. And there were times I thought it might be best for him to redshirt, just for him mentally to feel really, really good about where he was, and I think also for him to know what his defined role is going to be. Because all of a sudden, you know, a year ago, our first year, De'Mornay was slotted to be our "Z," and we had all these plans for him and it all went out the window with his injuries.

"But then we had guys surface, that all of a sudden we've got four other guys that have made a whole bunch of plays, and where is De'Mornay going to fit in and how is this going to work? I never doubted, with his ability, that he would fit in, but I did wonder if it would be better for him mentally to just wait."

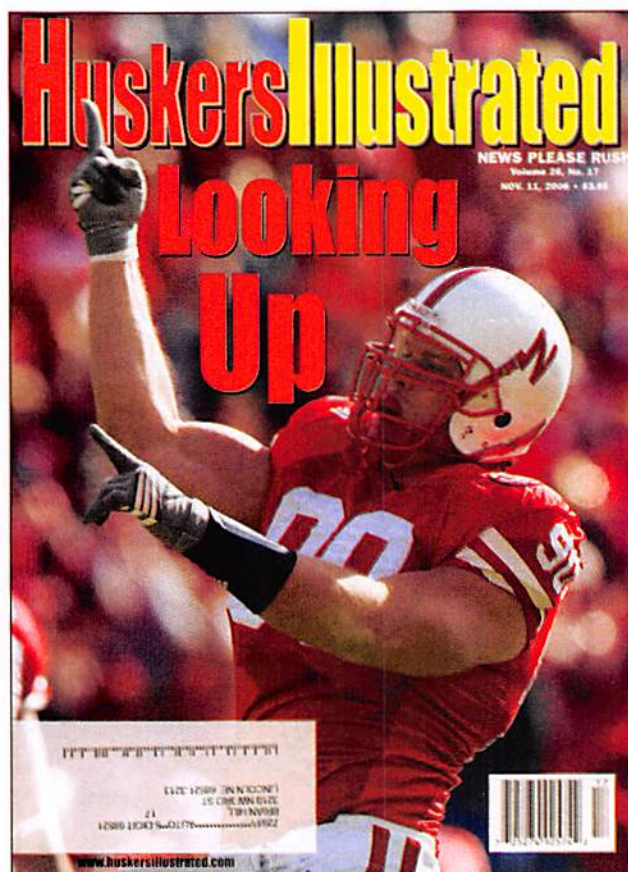
So the decision whether to redshirt was Pierson-El's, who ultimately gave Riley the nod he was ready. Pierson-El said he just wanted to be around his teammates everyday.

"I'm absolutely glad that I'm playing, and not even just for that reason. Just to be around my teammates and ev-

Continued on Pg. 26

HI'S TOP 5

2006 HUSKER ALL-CONFERENCE SELECTIONS



Adam Carriker

- 1 Adam Carriker**
Defensive End
- 2 Brandon Jackson**
Running Back
- 3 Bo Ruud**
Linebacker
- 4 Zac Taylor**
Quarterback
- 5 Dane Todd**
Fullback



Nebraska defensive line coach John Parrella takes watch over the Huskers as they stretch during warm ups at Camp Randall Stadium in M



JIMMY RASH/HUSKERS ILLUSTRATED

Madison, Wisconsin on Saturday evening.

Continued from Pg. 23

everything like that," Pierson-El said. "It was a decision that I didn't know where it was going to go at first, but I'm certainly glad that I made the decision to play this year."

His touchdown against Purdue was just a glimpse of what he can do. And what Riley knows he can do.

"He's capable of, just like that, in the blink of an eye, making a big play, and so I'm really happy for him personally to come back from two major injuries a year ago, and wondering whether or not, maybe if he was even going to redshirt this year, and now very thankful that he did not," Riley said. "And it's really just personally neat to see him so excited about playing, and see what he can do. And I know he feels good about that."

HUSKERS WAITING TO SEE HEALTHY OZIGBO

Senior Terrell Newby has taken over the workload at running back over the last two weeks before the Wisconsin game with Devine Ozigbo dealing with a high ankle sprain suffered against Illinois.

Through the first five games of the season, Newby and Ozigbo essentially split the workload in the backfield.

After carrying the ball 76 times in those first five games though, Ozigbo has only one carry in the past two games.

Head coach Mike Riley said he would like to see the backs splitting more of the carries.

"We want him to be more involved probably than the last couple weeks," Riley said. "I say that, and I certainly appreciate how Newby has carried the load, but we have been good when we have rotated and kept guys fresher. We would like to be doing that more."

The Nebraska coaching staff wants to see a full week of practice out of Ozigbo before relying on him in a game situations but Riley said it will be critical to have him back against Wisconsin.

"We're going to need that more than ever this week. Our goal is to have two or three guys that can go in the game and carry the football. The last couple games, we've found one. So we're looking for those other guys to step up and be ready to play."



JIMMY RASH/HUSKERS ILLUSTRATED

Nebraska running back Devine Ozigbo carries the ball against the Badgers.



JIMMY RASH/HUSKERS ILLUSTRATED

Jordan Westerkamp takes a shot after making one of three catches against the Badgers.

WESTERKAMP COMES BACK FROM FRACTURED SPINE

During Monday's press conference, head coach Mike Riley said he expects Jordan Westerkamp to return to game action against Wisconsin after missing the past two games with a back injury he suffered against Illinois.

"After the midway point last week, I thought he'd be, whatever 100 percent is, I thought he'd be that by tomorrow. The way he was running, moving, cutting, all that, it looked like that to me. And everybody, the trainer, Mark (Mayer) and (Executive Director of Player Personnel) Billy Devaney, the people that really watched him, everybody was encouraged about how he looked. But most importantly, when I talked to him, I could tell he was going to be ready for tomorrow's practice, so I think he'll be back."

Westerkamp suffered fractures in his spine along with a deep muscle bruise from a hit to the back in the win against Illinois. Westerkamp said the muscle bruise was the hardest part to heal.

"I wouldn't say it's the most serious part, but it's the hardest part to get back to running," Westerkamp said. "It was just trying to get the muscles to relax, and it was in a spot where everything you're doing, you're going to be kind of feeling it."

"Rehabbed like crazy, huge credit to the training staff for getting me back. It's been tough, but I'm glad to be back."

Westerkamp has been quarterback Tommy Armstrong Jr.'s most reliable target over his four years under center. The senior is tied for second on the team with 13 catches for 228 yards and he leads the team with four touchdown receptions.

Armstrong Jr., who is Westerkamp's roommate, said Westerkamp is excited to just be around the team again.

"It's going to help a lot," Armstrong Jr. said. "I've seen him work out a lot, and he's been in and out of rehab to make sure he's doing as much as he can. He's just excited about getting out there and doing stuff with us and being part of the team again."

"That kind of guy is the type of guy who doesn't like to be by himself, honestly. He likes to be around the team, and I could see him getting down these last few weeks. But he's excited, I'm excited, and I think the whole team's excited about having another threat out there on offense. Having Jordan back is going to be a real key for us."

PRE-SNAP MOTION A KEY FOR DEFENSE

The Blackshirts focus this week in preparation for Wisconsin is the Badger offenses pre-snap motion.

The Badgers mix in different pre-snap motions to try and confuse defense's and use assignments breakdowns to their advantage.

Defensive coordinator Mark Banker said the defense has

to keep their assignments and not use the motion as a distraction.

"It's just a visual thing and a communication deal," Banker said. "You have to have good communication and know that it could be a distraction, but don't let it be. Because from the tackle to the tackle, up through the center to the quarterback, it never changes. It's just all the window dressing on the outside and how it changes."

Safety Nate Gerry said as the Wisconsin offense motions blockers into positions, the Blackshirts will need to be physical running to the ball.

"Just watching film, they are one of those teams where we are going to be in a boxing match," Gerry said. "They are going to put us in a corner and we need to swing out of it. On film, they are disciplined, they hit you with the same plays."

As for the secondary, they will need to play discipline waiting for the play action. Wisconsin play action plays are often assumed as run plays because of the variety of plays from the same formation.

"I think every week we have to be disciplined," safety Kieron Williams said. "Especially this week, I haven't had a chance to look exactly, but I'm pretty sure their run percentage is much higher than their pass percentage. Their play-action works really well, so this will be a great eye-discipline and foot-discipline game, a footwork discipline game to make sure we're in the right place at the right time."

BROWN RETURNS TO WISCONSIN

Kicker Drew Brown will head back to Wisconsin for the first time since Sam Foltz tragically died in a car accident in Wisconsin. Brown attended the same football camp with Foltz the same weekend and was in a different car when the accident occurred.

"It'll be tough," Brown said. "It's not the same area specifically, but I think just the general feeling of being back in Wisconsin since that happened, it's going to be hard for me but at the same time we've got a huge game in front of us that if we win it will take a lot of stress off us. Last time we were up there playing a game, they embarrassed us and they played a great game, and we didn't come up there ready to play. So we've got to be able to do a little bit better this time."



Above: Spencer Lindsay and Drew Brown carry a white Wisconsin Sam Foltz jersey as injured Wisconsin kicker Rafael Gaglianone walks out with NU's specialists. Below: Gaglianone hugs Mick Stoltenberg after the 23-17 loss.

One person Brown got to know through the tough time of losing a close friend is Wisconsin kicker Rafael Gaglianone.

"I didn't really know much about him before this summer and all of the events that happened," Brown said. "I always knew that he was a good and talented athlete and that was kind of the extent, but once I got to know him as a person it's been a blessing. He was able to stay at my house over the summer for one day whenever he had the funeral. He flew out the next day and he just chilled out at my house. He's a nice guy. All the guys up there at Wisconsin, all the specialists, they're great guys. Just in general, all the specialists in the Big Ten, we're a tight-knit group."



Hometown Huskers

Hoppes grooming himself for when his time comes

Story by Kevin Houck • Photo by Mitch Otto

TIGHT ENDS SAM COTTON and Tyler Hoppes headed to the north endzone of Memorial Stadium after Wednesday's practice throwing the ball and running routes while reporters gathered around Husker offensive players.

That instance wasn't the first time the duo got together after practice. It has been the two's routine since the start of fall camp whether it's playing pass and catch in the endzone or heading to the Hawks Center to catch balls from the jugs machine.

"What started it was the seniors during the offseason," Hoppes said. "They made checklists of what they wanted to accomplish and really what is was is to catch every ball, no missed assignments and just play hard. So that's what we've been doing. We've been out here throwing everyday, we've been down there doing the jug machines."

With Cethan Carter missing multiple games with an elbow injury, Cotton has moved to the starting tight end and Hoppes moved to third string finding playing time on passing situations making their routine even more valuable.

Hoppes entered his third season in the program this year. He committed and played a season at Wayne State College his freshman year, where he caught five passes for 49 yards and a touchdown.

The Lincoln Southwest graduate didn't receive a walk-on offer from Nebraska out of high school. He had Division II and Division I-AA offers before deciding on Wayne.

But while Hoppes was in Wayne, he knew he wanted to be playing for his hometown.

"I decided to go to Wayne because I had a buddy up there actually so I was like, 'Okay I know somebody going away to college but I went up there and didn't necessarily like it,' Hoppes said. "It's just a small town so I wanted to be back in the hometown."

So Hoppes got a hold of fellow high school teammate and Husker teammate Josh Banderas about how to go about talking to the Husker coaches.

"He talked to Jeff Jamrog, which is now

the Midland head coach, and he hooked it up with that because I told Josh I was interested in transferring but I don't really know how about talking to coaches. I was still at Wayne under their contract with that so I couldn't talk to anybody. So he helped me out a lot with that."

After talking to Husker coaches and Wayne giving him his scholarship release, Hoppes transferred and sat out the 2014 season due to NCAA transfer rules.

During his redshirt season, the Huskers moved Hoppes to defensive end on scout team until Bo Pelini and staff were fired. Then when Mike Riley and company entered the program, Hoppes went to tight ends coach Tavita Thompson about the possibility of switching back to tight end.

"I just felt more comfortable at tight end," Hoppes said. "I played it in high school as well and then I went off to Wayne and played it. I just went and talked to Tavita (Thompson).

I was like, 'Hey listen is there any way I could switch. I feel more comfortable here'. And then he brought me in."

Offensive coordinator Danny Langsdorf said Hoppes is a vertical threat working to improve in blocking situations.

"Really an athletic kid," Langsdorf said.

"Good route runner. I think he's continued to improve blocking so I think that's helping him.

We've liked how he's picked up the offense. He's kind of been in a backup role but with Cethan Carter being out he's elevated his game a little bit so we're expecting him to continue to improve and become even a better blocker. He's a threat running routes."

Hoppes has yet to see much playing time this season but with seniors Carter, Cotton and Trey Foster slotted ahead of him, he has been watching each one closely for when his time comes in an every-down capacity next season.

"They've been teaching me a lot so every practice, every film session I take it all in," Hoppes said.





2016 HUSKER FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

Date	Opponent	Location	Results
Sat, Sep 03	Fresno State	Memorial Stadium	-
Sat, Sep 10	Wyoming	Memorial Stadium	-
Sat, Sep 17	Oregon	Memorial Stadium	-
Sat, Sep 24	Northwestern *	at Evanston, Ill.	-
Sat, Oct 01	Illinois *	Memorial Stadium	-
Sat, Oct 15	Indiana *	at Bloomington, Ind.	-
Sat, Oct 22	Purdue *	Memorial Stadium	-
Sat, Oct 29	Wisconsin *	at Madison, Wis.	-
Sat, Nov 05	Ohio State *	at Columbus, Ohio	-
Sat, Nov 12	Minnesota *	Memorial Stadium	-
Sat, Nov 19	Maryland *	Memorial Stadium	-
Fri, Nov 25	Iowa *	at Iowa City, Iowa	-

*Conference Games



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Megan Fales
Cozad
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Myron Hahn
Nebraska City
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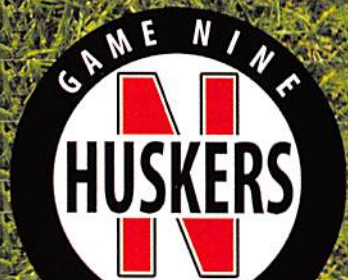
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2016 NEBRASKA FOOTBALL ROSTER

No	Name	Pos	Ht	Wt	Yr	Hometown	No	Name	Pos	Ht	Wt	Yr	Hometown
1	Lamar Jackson	DB	6-3	195	Fr.	Elk Grove, Calif. (Franklin)	41	Luke McNitt	FB	6-2	240	Jr.	Kearney, Neb. (Nebraska-Kearney)(Kearney)
1	Jordan Westerkamp	WR	6-0	200	Sr.	Lombard, Ill. (Montini Catholic)	42	Trey Foster	TE	6-2	250	Sr.	Lincoln, Neb. (Southeast)
2	Tony Butler	DB	6-2	195	Fr.	Lakewood, Ohio (St. Edward)	43	Tyrin Ferguson	LB	6-2	225	So.	New Orleans, La. (Edna Karr)
2	Zack Darlington	WR	6-2	195	So.	Apopka, Fla. (Apopka)	43	Todd Honas	WR	5-11	200	Fr.	Aurora, Neb. (Aurora)
3	Lavan Alston Jr.	WR	6-0	175	RFr.	Oxnard, Calif. (St. Bonaventure)	44	Mitch McCann	FB	6-0	240	Sr.	Omaha, Neb. (Burke)
3	Marcus Newby	LB	6-1	235	Jr.	North Potomac, Md. (Quince Orchard)	44	Mick Stoltenberg	DL	6-5	290	So.	Gretna, Neb. (Gretna)
4	Avery Anderson	S	6-0	185	RFr.	Surprise, Ariz. (Pine Creek (Colorado Springs))	45	Ty Chaffin	WR	6-5	200	Fr.	Burwell, Neb. (Burwell)
4	Tommy Armstrong Jr.	QB	6-1	220	Sr.	Cibola, Texas (Steele)	45	A.J. Natter	DE	6-5	260	Jr.	Milton, Wis. (Milton)
5	Dedrick Young II	LB	6-1	220	So.	Peoria, Ariz. (Centennial)	47	Branden Hohenstein	TE	6-4	205	Fr.	Jackson, Neb. (Bishop Heelan)
6	Eric Lee Jr.	CB	6-0	190	RFr.	Milton, Mass. (Valor Christian (Colorado))	47	Matt Jarzynka	DE	6-4	255	So.	Loup City, Neb. (Loup City)
7	Mohamed Barry	LB	6-1	220	RFr.	Grayson, Ga. (Grayson)	48	Erik Evans	DE	6-3	255	Jr.	Waverly, Neb. (Waverly)
8	Chris Jones	CB	6-0	185	Jr.	Jacksonville, Fla. (Sandalwood)	49	Austin Hemphill	FB	6-0	220	RFr.	Gretna, Neb. (Gretna)
8	Stanley Morgan Jr.	WR	6-1	200	So.	New Orleans, La. (St. Augustine)	49	Chris Weber	LB	6-3	230	Jr.	Jackson, Neb. (Elkhorn)
9	DaiShon Neal	DE	6-7	270	RFr.	Houston, Texas (Omaha Central)	50	Garret Johns	DL	6-0	285	Sr.	Aurora, Neb. (Aurora)
9	Keyan Williams	WR	5-10	195	So.	New Orleans, La. (Fresno State) (Lusher)	50	John Raridon	OL	6-4	275	Fr.	West Des Moines, Iowa (Valley)
10	Joshua Kalu	CB	6-1	190	Jr.	Houston, Texas (Alief Taylor)	51	Jared Brugmann	LB	6-2	235	RFr.	Gretna, Neb. (Gretna)
10	JD Spielman	WR	5-9	180	Fr.	Eden Prairie, Minn. (Eden Prairie)	52	Josh Banderas	LB	6-3	240	Sr.	Lincoln, Neb. (Southwest)
11	Cethan Carter	TE	6-4	240	Sr.	New Orleans, La. (Archbishop Rummel)	53	Alex Boryca	LB	6-2	220	So.	Cozad, Neb. (Cozad)
11	Boaz Joseph	CB	6-1	190	Jr.	Weston, Fla. (Cypress Bay)	54	Creighton Hamik	LB	6-3	210	Fr.	Kearney, Neb. (Kearney Catholic)
12	Luke Gifford	LB	6-3	230	So.	Lincoln, Neb. (Southeast)	54	Jordan Ober	LS	6-1	205	So.	Las Vegas, Nev. (Bishop Gorman)
12	Patrick O'Brien	QB	6-4	230	Fr.	San Juan Capistrano, Calif. (San Juan Hills)	54	Robby Painter	OL	6-5	300	Sr.	Centennial, Colo. (Grandview)
13	JoJo Domann	DB	6-1	205	Fr.	Colorado Springs, Colo. (Pine Creek)	55	Kevin Maurice	DT	6-3	300	Sr.	Orlando, Fla. (Freedom)
13	Tanner Lee	QB	6-4	205	Jr.	Destrehan, La. (Tulane) (Jesuit)	56	Brad Simpson	LB	6-0	230	Sr.	Omaha, Neb. (Ralston)
14	Kyle Kasun	DB	6-0	180	RFr.	Papillion, Neb. (Papillion-La Vista South)	56	Boe Wilson	OL	6-3	295	Fr.	Lee's Summit, Mo. (Lee's Summit West)
15	De'Mornay Pierson-El	WR	5-9	185	Jr.	Alexandria, Va. (West Potomac)	57	Jacob Weinmaster	LB	6-0	215	RFr.	Loveland, Colo. (Loveland)
15	Michael Rose-Ivey	LB	6-0	230	Sr.	Kansas City, Mo. (Rockhurst)	58	Joel Lopez	DL	6-2	280	Jr.	Saint Charles, Ill. (Burlington Central)
16	Antonio Reed	S	6-2	220	So.	Memphis, Tenn. (Southaven (Miss.))	58	Corey Whitaker	OL	6-5	295	Sr.	Murrieta, Calif. (Vista Murrieta)
17	Ryker Fyfe	QB	6-3	215	Sr.	Grand Island, Neb. (Grand Island)	59	Brody Cleveland	LB	6-2	225	RFr.	Ogallala, Neb. (Ogallala)
17	Sedrick King	DE	6-4	250	So.	Plant City, Fla. (Plant City)	61	Bryan Brokop	OL	6-5	275	Fr.	New Lenox, Ill. (Lincoln-Way West)
18	Tre Bryant	IB	5-11	200	Fr.	St. Louis, Mo. (Christian Brothers College)	62	Colo Conrad	OL	6-5	305	So.	Fremont, Neb. (Archbishop Bergan)
19	Marquel Dismuke	DB	6-2	180	Fr.	Calabasas, Calif. (Calabasas)	63	Tanner Farmer	OL	6-4	295	So.	Highland, Ill. (Highland)
21	Charles Jackson	DB	5-11	180	Sr.	Spring, Texas (Klein Collins)	65	Christian Gaylord	OL	6-6	300	RFr.	Baldwin City, Kan. (Baldwin City)
21	Mikale Wilbon	IB	5-9	195	So.	Chicago, Ill. (De La Salle Institute)	66	Dylan Utter	OL	6-1	295	Sr.	Papillion, Neb. (Papillion-La Vista)
22	Alex Davis	DE	6-5	255	RFr.	Riviera Beach, Fla. (Dwyer)	67	Jerald Foster	OL	6-3	310	So.	Lincoln, Neb. (Southeast)
22	Devine Ozigbo	IB	5-11	230	So.	Sachse, Texas (Sachse)	68	Nick Gates	OL	6-5	290	So.	Las Vegas, Nev. (Bishop Gorman)
23	Dicaprio Bootle	DB	5-10	180	Fr.	Miami, Fla. (Southridge)	71	Matt Farniok	OL	6-6	300	Fr.	Sioux Falls, S.D. (Washington)
23	Austin Rose	IB	6-1	225	So.	Lincoln, Neb. (North Star)	72	Zach Hannon	OL	6-5	315	Jr.	Kansas City, Mo. (Rockhurst)
24	Aaron Williams	S	5-11	185	So.	Atlanta, Ga. (Carver)	73	Sam Hahn	OL	6-7	300	Sr.	DeWitt, Neb. (No. Dakota St.)(Tri-County)
25	Nathan Gerry	S	6-2	220	Sr.	Sioux Falls, S.D. (Washington)	74	Jalin Barnett	OL	6-4	310	RFr.	Lawton, Okla. (Lawton)
26	Thomas Connely	LB	5-11	220	So.	Kearney, Neb. (Kearney Catholic)	75	Fyn Anderson	DL	6-3	260	RFr.	Lincoln, Neb. (Southeast)
26	Brady Putzel	WR	5-11	185	So.	Bellevue, Neb. (Bellevue East)	76	Dwayne Johnson Jr.	OL	6-6	300	Jr.	Houston, Texas (Bellaire)
26	Jamie Sutcliffe	PK	6-2	190	Sr.	Thousand Oaks, Calif. (Utah/Pierce College)(Thousand Oaks)	76	Dylan Owen	DL	6-5	240	So.	Westchester, N.Y. (Bridgton Academy)(Somers)
26	Kieron Williams	S	6-1	195	Jr.	Shreveport, La. (Air Force Prep)(C.E. Byrd)	77	David Knevel	OL	6-9	315	Jr.	Brantford, Ontario, Canada (Pauline Johnson Collegiate)
27	Sam Foltz	P	6-2	205	Sr.	Greeley, Neb. (Grand Island)	79	Michael Decker	OL	6-4	285	RFr.	Omaha, Neb. (North)
28	Eli Sullivan	DB	6-2	190	Fr.	Longmont, Colo. (Longmont)	80	Brett Classen	WR	6-2	205	Jr.	Medina, Minn. (Winona State)(Wayzata)
28	Adam Taylor	IB	6-2	210	Jr.	Katy, Texas (Katy)	81	Gabe Rahn	WR	6-1	195	Jr.	Le Mars, Iowa (Le Mars)
29	Nolan Graham	DB	5-11	200	So.	Firth, Neb. (Norris)	82	Alonzo Moore	WR	6-2	195	Sr.	Winnfield, La. (Winnfield Senior)
29	Graham Nabity	IB	6-1	210	Sr.	Omaha, Neb. (Elkhorn)	83	David Engelhaupt	TE	6-3	230	Fr.	Norfolk, Neb. (Norfolk Catholic)
30	Quayshon Alexander	LB	6-3	235	Fr.	Prospect Park, N.J. (De Paul Catholic)	83	Bryan Reimers	WR	6-5	210	So.	Lincoln, Neb. (Lincoln East)
30	Bo Kittrell	FB	6-1	225	So.	Ashland, Neb. (Ashland-Greenwood)	84	Sam Cotton	TE	6-5	250	Sr.	Lincoln, Neb. (Southeast)
31	Greg Simmons	LB	6-2	240	Fr.	Fort Pierce, Fla. (Fort Pierce Central)	85	Matt Snyder	TE	6-5	255	RFr.	San Ramon, Calif. (California)
31	Conor Young	WR	6-2	170	RFr.	Cozad, Neb. (Cozad)	86	Jack Stoll	TE	6-4	235	Fr.	Lone Tree, Colo. (Regis Jesuit)
32	Tanner Hass	RB	6-0	195	Fr.	West Point, Neb. (Guardian Angels)	87	Brandon Reilly	WR	6-2	200	Sr.	Lincoln, Neb. (Southwest)
32	Pernell Jefferson	LB	6-2	225	Fr.	New Orleans, La. (Warren Easton)	88	Ross Dzuris	DE	6-3	255	Sr.	Plattsmouth, Neb. (Plattsmouth)
33	Christian Bailey	WR	6-0	205	Jr.	San Clemente, Calif. (San Clemente)	88	Tyler Hoppes	TE	6-4	240	Jr.	Lincoln, Neb. (Wayne St.)(Southwest)
33	Tanner Zlab	DB	5-10	195	Sr.	Wilber, Neb. (Doane)(Wilber-Clatonia)	89	Connor Ketter	TE	6-5	245	Jr.	Norfolk, Neb. (Norfolk Catholic)
34	Drew Brown	PK	5-11	195	Jr.	Southlake, Texas (Southlake Carroll)	91	Freedom Akinmoladun	DE	6-4	255	So.	Grandview, Mo. (Grandview)
34	Terrell Newby	IB	5-10	200	Sr.	Los Angeles, Calif. (Chaminade)	92	Chase Urbach	LS	6-3	200	RFr.	Grosse Pointe, Mich. (Grosse Pointe South)
35	Caleb Lightbourn	P/PK	6-3	220	Fr.	Washougal, Wash. (Camas)	94	Khalil Davis	DT	6-2	290	RFr.	Blue Springs, Mo. (Blue Springs)
35	Jeremiah Stovall	DB	5-11	175	RFr.	Omaha, Neb. (Creighton Prep)	95	Spencer Lindsay	PK	5-9	210	Sr.	Kearney, Neb. (Kearney)
36	Spencer Jordan	FB	6-2	215	Fr.	Omaha, Neb. (Westside)	95	Ben Stille	DE	6-5	240	Fr.	Ashland, Neb. (Ashland-Greenwood)
36	Reid Karel	DB	6-3	205	RFr.	Seward, Neb. (Seward)	96	Carlos Davis	DT	6-2	295	RFr.	Blue Springs, Mo. (Blue Springs)
37	Wyatt Mazour	IB	5-9	190	RFr.	Albion, Neb. (Boone Central)	97	Logan Rath	DT	6-4	280	Sr.	Giltner, Neb. (So. Dakota St.)(Giltner)
38	Harrison Jordan	FB	5-10	230	Jr.	Omaha, Neb. (Westside)	98	Isaac Armstrong	P	5-11	195	RFr.	Lincoln, Neb. (Kearney)(Southwest)
39	Donovan McDonald	WR	5-11	175	RFr.	Montclair, N.J. (Fork Union Military Academy)(Montclair)	98	Collin Miller	DE	6-3	235	Fr.	Fishers, Ind. (Hamilton Southeastern)
39	Jordan Nelson	IB	5-8	180	Sr.	Omaha, Neb. (Burke)	99	Peyton Newell	DT	6-3	290	So.	Hiawatha, Kan. (Hiawatha)
40	Ty Betka	WR	5-7	165	Sr.	Superior, Neb. (Drake)		Jake Kitten	OL	6-2	290	Fr.	Santee, Calif. (Santana)
40	Grant Jordan	LB	6-2	205	Fr.	Omaha, Neb. (Westside)		Sean Lambert	IB	6-0	200	Fr.	Fremont, Neb. (Fremont)
41	Noah Johnson	IB	6-0	210	RFr.	Sutton, Neb. (Sutton)		Ne'Land Smith	WR	6-3	190	Fr.	Blue Springs, Mo. (Blue Springs)



11-5 OHIO STATE 2016

2016 SCHEDULE

Sept. 3	Bowling Green	W, 77-10
Sept. 10	Tulsa	W, 48-3
Sept. 17	@ Oklahoma	W, 45-24
Oct. 1	Rutgers	W, 58-0
Oct. 8	Indiana	W, 38-17
Oct. 15	@ Wisconsin	W, 30-23
Oct. 22	@ Penn State	L, 24-21
Oct. 29	Northwestern	W, 24-20
Nov. 5	Nebraska	
Nov. 12	@ Maryland	
Nov. 19	@ Michigan State	
Nov. 26	Michigan	

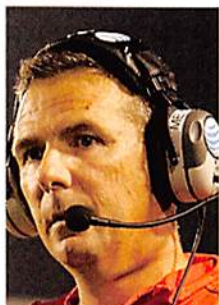
2015 RESULTS (12-1, 7-1)

@ Virginia Tech	W, 42-24
Hawaii	W, 38-0
Northern Illinois	W, 20-13
Western Michigan	W, 38-12
@ Indiana	W, 34-27
Maryland	W, 49-28
Penn State	W, 38-10
@ Rutgers	W, 49-7
Minnesota	W, 28-14
@ Illinois	W, 28-3
Michigan State	L, 17-14
@ Michigan	W, 42-13
Notre Dame	W, 44-28*

* Fiesta Bowl

COACH URBAN MEYER

Meyer is one of the elite coaches in college football. In his fifth season at Ohio State, he is an impressive 57-5, which includes a Big Ten Championship and a National Title. Overall, Meyer has a head coaching record of 161-28, which includes stops beginning at Bowling Green, then Utah, and Florida. He won two national championships with the Gators and had an equally impressive record at 65-15 in just six seasons. The way Meyer can recruit and coach, Ohio State will always be in the national championship conversation every year.



H-Back Curtis Samuel is an all-purpose threat.

Story By Shane G. Gilster • Photos by Ohio State Athletics

NU Faces Toughest Test of Season

Nebraska played hard against a good Wisconsin team but they now face a whole other animal in Ohio State.

The Buckeyes will be the best team the Huskers will face this season and playing in Columbus is a tough task for anyone. Especially for an NU squad dealing with a hangover losing to Wisconsin in overtime the week before.

NU's defense is a strength but they have not seen the type of offense Ohio State presents with quarterback J.T. Barrett at the controls. They can run and pass equally well and have playmakers all over the field.

Nebraska's offense just can't put up the points to keep up with the Buckeyes. OSU should pull away late to hand NU their second straight loss.

Prediction: Ohio State 37, Nebraska 20

Offensive Preview

Starters Returning/Lost: 3/8

Offense: Power Spread

Outlook: Through their last two games, the Buckeyes haven't been the offensive juggernaut that they had been through the first six. Nevertheless, they are still

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averaging almost 43 points per game.

J.T. Barrett can run and throw well, making him a dangerous threat with the ball in his hands. He has thrown for 17 touchdowns compared to his four interceptions and has passed for almost 1,700 yards with a 64 percent completion rate. On the ground, Barrett has run for over 500 yards and six scores.

The Buckeyes don't have an Ezekiel Elliott in the backfield but Mike Weber is averaging six yards a pop with almost 800 yards.

But perhaps the most dangerous weapon in both the running and passing game is H-back Curtis Samuel.

The speedster is the second leading rusher with eight yards a carry and is the team's top receiver.

Ohio State loves the second quarter so opponents better take note of that. They are scoring a team-best 119 points.

Defensive Preview

Starters Returning/Lost:

3/8

Defense: Multiple

Outlook: This is a young defense but don't tell them that. They have grown up in a hurry, and like the offense, are ultra-talented. They are only giving up 15 points per game, 124 yards rushing, and 171 through the air.

There are playmakers all over the field for the Buckeyes. Linebacker Raekwon McMillan leads the team in tackles with 51 and Malik Hooker is a ball-hawking safety who is only one tackle



Safety Malik Hooker leads the team in interceptions.

behind McMillan and leads the team in interceptions, which includes one taken back for a touchdown.

The defensive line is stout with sack leader Tyquan Lewis along with Nick Bosa. So there really aren't many weaknesses.

Special Teams Preview

Starters Returning/Lost:

2/2

Outlook: OSU features two of the best kickers in the nation. Tyler Durbin is only in his second season after walking on to the team. Before that he has never played competitive football, just soccer.

Durbin is a perfect 11 of 11 on field goal attempts with a long of 40 yards.

Cameron Johnston is averaging 47.5 per punt with a long of 70 yards, so he can

quickly flip the field in the Buckeyes favor.

Did You Know?

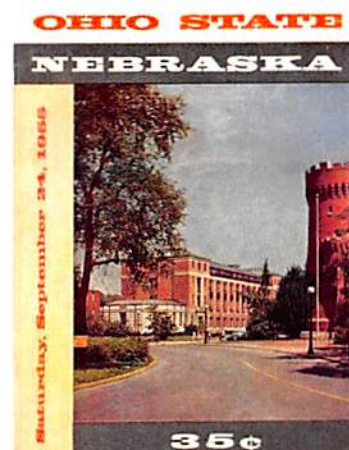
A Buckeye is a small, shiny, dark brown nut with a light tan patch that comes from the official state tree of Ohio, the buckeye tree. According to folklore, the Buckeye resembles the eye of a deer and carrying one brings good luck. "Buckeyes" has been the official Ohio State nickname since 1950 – *OhioStateBuckeyes.com*

A Look Back

Ohio State 28, Nebraska 20
Sept. 24, 1955 in Columbus

In the first-ever meeting between the Huskers and Buckeyes, it was the team that was ranked who won.

OSU was No. 6 in the country and the defending



national champion, but they were in a battle with a Nebraska squad that lost their opening game to Hawaii.

It was a back and forth contest with Nebraska grabbing a 20-14 lead in the third quarter until the Buckeyes scored back to back touchdowns to go in front and eventually get the win.

If it wasn't for Howard "Hopalong" Cassady running for 170 yards and three touchdowns, the Buckeyes may have gotten upset.

But they rode their star who would go on to win the Heisman Trophy.

Fast Facts

Location: Columbus, Ohio
Enrollment: 57,466
First Year of football: 1890
National Championships: 8
Conference Titles: 35
Stadium: Ohio Stadium
Stadium Capacity: 104,944
Nickname: Buckeyes
Colors: Scarlet and Gray
2015 Record: 12-1, 7-1
Conference: Big Ten

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OHIO STATE BUCKEYES

2016 FOOTBALL ROSTER



No	Name	Pos	Ht	Wt	Yr.	Hometown (Previous School)	No	Name	Pos	Ht	Wt	Yr.	Hometown (Previous School)
1	Dixon, Johnnie	WR	5-11	198	SO	West Palm Beach, Fla. (Dwyer)	35	Worley, Chris	LB	6-2	228	JR	Cleveland, Ohio (Glenville)
2	Wilson, Dontre	WR	5-10	195	SR	DeSoto, Texas (DeSoto)	36	Turnure, Zach	LB	6-1	225	SR	St. Louis, Mo. (CBC)
2	Lattimore, Marshon	CB	6-0	192	SO	Cleveland, Ohio (Glenville)	37	Lawless, Michael	SAF	6-2	215	SR	Dover, Ohio (Tuscarawas Central Catholic)
3	Arnette, Damon	CB	6-0	195	RS FR	Fort Lauderdale, Fla. (St. Thomas Aquinas)	38	Fada, Craig	LB	6-1	225	SR	Columbus, Ohio (Bishop Watterson)
4	Fuller, Jordan	SAF	6-2	205	FR	Old Tappan, N.J. (Old Tappan)	39	Harrison, Malik	LB	6-3	228	FR	Columbus, Ohio (Walnut Ridge)
4	Samuel, Curtis	H-B	5-11	197	JR	Brooklyn, N.Y. (Erasmus)	42	Slade, Darius	DL	6-4	258	SO	Montclair, N.J. (Montclair)
5	McMillan, Raekwon	LB	6-2	243	JR	Hinesville, Ga. (Liberty County)	43	Conner, Nick	LB	6-3	232	RS FR	Dublin, Ohio (Scioto)
5	Smith, Corey	WR	6-1	190	GS	Akron, Ohio (Akron Buchtel)	44	Mawhirter, Aaron	LS	6-2	220	SR	Sandusky, Ohio (Perkins)
6	Hubbard, Sam	DE	6-5	266	SO	Cincinnati, Ohio (Archbishop Moeller)	44	Ferrelli, Guy	TE	6-1	245	SR	Columbus, Ohio (Bishop Ready)
7	Haskins, Dwayne	QB	6-3	220	FR	Potomac, Md. (Bullis School)	46	Haney, Cin'Quan	CB	6-1	200	SR	Dayton, Ohio (Chaminade-Julienne)
7	Webb, Damon	CB	5-10	195	JR	Detroit, Mich (Cass Tech)	46	Huguely, Ke'Von	RB	5-7	180	SO	Dayton, Ohio (Meadowdale)
8	Conley, Gareon	CB	6-0	195	JR	Massillon, Ohio (Washington)	47	Hilliard, Justin	LB	6-1	230	FR	Cincinnati, Ohio (St. Xavier)
9	Cornell, Jashon	DT	6-3	280	RS FR	St. Paul, Minn. (Cretin-Derham Hall)	48	Burger, Joe	LB	6-2	230	SR	Cincinnati, Ohio (LaSalle)
9	Victor, Binjimen	WR	6-4	185	FR	Fort Lauderdale, Florida (Coconut Creek)	49	McCullough, Liam	LS	6-2	228	RS FR	Columbus, Ohio (Worthington Kilbourne)
10	Burrow, Joe	QB	6-3	218	RS FR	The Plains, Ohio (Athens)	53	Hamilton, Davon	DT	6-4	297	RS FR	Pickerington, Ohio (Central)
10	Malone, Derrick	TE	6-4	245	SO	Dayton, Ohio (Thurgood Marshall H.S.)	54	Price, Billy	OL	6-4	315	JR	Austintown, Ohio (Fitch)
11	Mack, Austin	WR	6-2	215	FR	Fort Wayne, Ind. (Bishop Luers)	55	Barrow, Malik	DT	6-2	288	FR	Tampa, Fla. (Catholic & IMG Academy)
11	Holmes, Jalyn	DE	6-5	274	JR	Norfolk, Va. (Lake Taylor)	58	Alabi, Joshua	DT	6-5	295	RS FR	Detroit, Mich. (Cass Tech)
11	Cook, Justin	QB	6-2	220	JR	Philadelphia, Pa. (Western Reserve Academy)	59	Prince, Isaiah	OL	6-7	310	SO	Greenbelt, Md. (Eleanor Roosevelt)
12	Ward, Denzel	CB	5-10	185	SO	Macedonia, Ohio (Nordonina)	59	Lewis, Tyquan	DL	6-4	266	JR	Tarboro, N.C. (Tarboro)
13	Collier, Stephen	QB	6-4	225	SO	Leesburg, Ga. (Lee County)	60	Pfennig, Blake	OL	6-5	290	SO	Wapakoneta, Ohio (Wapakoneta)
13	Berry, Rashod	DE	6-4	252	RS FR	Lorain, Ohio (Lorain)	61	Cupp, Gavin	OL	6-5	300	FR	Leipsic, Ohio (Leipsic H.S.)
14	Hill, K.J.	WR	6-0	200	RS FR	North Little Rock, Ark. (North Little Rock)	62	Parry, Aaron	OL	6-5	290	SR	Zanesville, Ohio (Bishop Rosecrans)
14	Jones, Keandre	LB	6-2	218	FR	Olney, Md. (Good Counsel)	63	Woidke, Kevin	OL	6-6	295	SO	Cleveland, Ohio (St. Ignatius)
15	Howard, Cameron	SAF	6-1	205	GS	Columbus, Ohio (Gahanna Lincoln)	64	Wohlabaugh, Jack	OL	6-3	290	FR	Bath, Ohio (Walsh Jesuit)
15	Davis, Wayne	DB	5-10	190	FR	Norfolk, Va (Lake Taylor H.S.)	65	Elflein, Pat	OL	6-3	300	SR	Pickerington, Ohio (North)
16	Barrett, J.T.	QB	6-2	222	JR	Wichita Falls, Texas (Rider)	66	Pridgeon, Malcolm	OL	6-7	315	JR	Central Islip, N.Y. (Central Islip H.S.)
16	Burrows, Cam	DB	6-0	205	SO	Trotwood, Ohio (Madison)	67	Landers, Robert	DL	6-1	285	FR	Dayton, Ohio (Huber Heights Wayne)
17	Baker, Jerome	LB	6-1	225	SO	Cleveland, Ohio (Benedictine)	69	Pahl, Brandon	OL	6-2	295	SO	Cutler, Ohio (Warren)
17	Saunders, C.J.	CB	5-11	180	SO	Dublin, Ohio (Coffman H.S.)	69	Burrell, Matthew	OL	6-4	305	RS FR	Woodbridge, Va. (Hylton)
18	Cooper, Jonathon	DL	6-3	248	FR	Gahanna, Ohio (Lincoln)	70	Henry, Curtis	DT	6-0	285	JR	Cleveland, Ohio (Glenville)
18	Hounshell, Chase	TE	6-4	250	GS	Kirtland, Ohio (Lake Catholic H.S.)	71	Trout, Kyle	OL	6-6	310	SO	Lancaster, Ohio (Lancaster)
19	Glover-Williams, Eric	CB	5-9	178	SO	Canton, Ohio (McKinley)	72	Gerald, Tyler	OL	6-5	310	FR	Portsmouth, Ohio (Sciotoville East & IMG Academy)
19	Ramstetter, Joe	WR	6-3	210	SR	Cincinnati, Ohio (Elder)	73	Jordan, Michael	OL	6-7	310	FR	Canton, Mich. (Plymouth)
20	Franklin, Khaleed	SAF	6-1	205	SR	Columbus, Ohio (Beechcroft)	74	Jones, Jamarco	OL	6-5	310	JR	Chicago, Ill. (De La Salle)
21	Campbell, Parris	WR	6-1	208	SO	Akron (St. Vincent-St. Mary)	75	Lisle, Evan	OL	6-7	308	SO	Centerville, Ohio (Centerville)
21	Forte, Trevon	CB	5-8	185	JR	Youngstown, Ohio (Cardinal Mooney)	76	Bowen, Branden	OL	6-7	315	RS FR	Draper, Utah (Corner Canyon)
23	Wint, Jahsen	SAF	5-10	190	FR	Brooklyn, N.Y. (Erasmus Hall)	77	Feder, Kevin	OL	6-9	305	RS FR	Ramsey, N.J. (Don Bosco Prep)
23	McDaniel, Devlin	WR	5-11	190	SR	Marion, Ohio (Marion Pleasant)	77	Hill, Michael	DT	6-3	305	JR	Pendleton, S.C. (Pendleton)
24	Hooker, Malik	SAF	6-2	205	SO	New Castle, Pa. (New Castle)	78	Knox, Demetrius	OL	6-4	308	SO	Fort Worth, Texas (All Saints Episcopal)
24	Hawkins, Kierre	TE	6-3	245	FR	Maple Heights, Ohio (Maple Heights)	79	Taylor, Brady	OL	6-5	300	SO	Columbus, Ohio (Bishop Ready)
25	Weber, Mike	RB	5-10	212	RS FR	Detroit, Mich. (Cass Tech)	80	Brown, Noah	WR	6-2	218	SO	Flanders, N.J. (Pope John XXIII)
25	Kelleher, Logan	DB	5-8	192	JR	Cincinnati, Ohio (Archbishop Moeller)	81	Hausmann, Jake	TE	6-4	245	FR	Cincinnati, Ohio (Archbishop Moeller)
26	Barnes, Jarrod	SAF	6-0	200	GS	Westerville, Ohio (South)	82	Clark, James	WR	5-10	186	JR	New Smyrna Beach, Fla. (New Smyrna Beach)
26	Williams, Antonio	RB	5-11	210	FR	New London, N.C. (North Stanly)	83	McLaurin, Terry	WR	6-0	204	SO	Indianapolis (Cathedral)
28	Norwood, Joshua	CB	5-10	185	RS FR	Valdosta, Ga. (Valdosta)	85	Baugh, Marcus	TE	6-5	258	JR	Riverside, Calif. (John W. North)
28	Cibene, Michael	SAF	6-0	195	SR	Fort Lauderdale, Fla. (Pine Crest)	86	Jones, Dre'Mont	DL	6-3	280	RS FR	Cleveland, Ohio (St. Ignatius)
29	Craft, Alex	K	6-1	220	SO	Kettering, Ohio (Archbishop Alter)	87	Stump, Alex	WR	6-3	210	RS FR	Avon, Ohio (St. Edward)
29	Burns, Rodjay	DB	6-0	180	FR	Louisville, KY (Trinity)	88	Alexander, A.J.	TE	6-2	254	RS FR	Burke, Va. (Lake Braddock)
30	Drake, Jared	LB	6-0	225	SO	Westerville, Ohio (Central)	89	Farrell, Luke	TE	6-6	245	FR	Perry, Ohio (Perry H.S.)
30	McCall, Demario	RB	5-9	182	FR	North Ridgeville, Ohio (North Ridgeville H.S.)	91	Chrisman, Drue	P	6-3	200	FR	Cincinnati, Ohio (Cincinnati LaSalle H.S.)
32	Goins, Elijaah	SAF	6-1	200	SR	Concord, N.C. (Cox Mill)	92	Durbin, Tyler	K	6-3	210	SR	Fairfax, Va. (Lake Braddock)
32	Borland, Tuf	LB	6-1	228	FR	Bolingbrook, Ill. (Bolingbrook)	93	Sprinkle, Tracy	DL	6-3	293	JR	Elyria, Ohio (Elyria)
33	Clutter, Austin	WR	6-0	200	SO	Geneva, Ohio (Geneva)	94	Thompson, Dylan	DL	6-5	280	SO	Lombard, Ill. (Montini Catholic)
33	Booker, Dante	LB	6-3	236	JR	Akron (St. Vincent-St. Mary)	95	Johnston, Cameron	P	5-11	198	GS	Geelong, Australia (St. Joseph's)
34	Smith, Erick	SAF	6-0	203	JR	Cleveland, Ohio (Glenville)	96	Nuernberger, Sean	K	6-1	227	JR	Buckner, Ky. (Oldham Co.)
35	Backenstoe, Alex	RB	6-0	220	SO	Hilliard, OH (Davidson)	97	Bosa, Nick	DE	6-4	265	FR	Fort Lauderdale, Fla. (St. Thomas Aquinas)

How Nebraska's Opponents Fared in Week Nine

Sept. 3

Fresno State (1-8)

Air Force 31, Fresno State 21

The Falcons scored 14 unanswered points in the fourth quarter. Air Force Quarterback Arion Worthman entered the game in the third quarter when Nate Romine injured his ankle. Worthman rushed for 102 yards and two touchdowns in relief. Fresno State has lost its seventh-consecutive game.

Sept. 10

Wyoming (6-2)

Wyoming 30, Boise State 28

The Cowboys sacked Boise State quarterback Brett Rypien in the end zone with 1:25 left in the game and recovered an onside kick to run the clock out. Wyoming running back Brian Hill rushed for 146 yards and quarterback Josh Allen threw for 274 yards, three touchdowns and an interception.

Sept. 17

Oregon (3-5)

Oregon 54, Arizona State 35

Oregon was able to exploit the Sun Devils through the air. Freshman quarterback Justin Herbert threw for 489 yards and four touchdowns. Arizona State also had a true freshman under center in Dillon Sterling-Cole. The freshman passed for 302 yards, a touchdown and three interceptions. The win ends the Ducks five-game losing streak.

Sept. 24

Northwestern (4-4, 3-2)

Ohio State 24, Northwestern 20

Ohio State running back Curtis Samuel broke the 17-17 tie with a three-yard rushing touchdown with 9:43 left in the game and Northwestern kicker Jack Mitchell made a 33-yard field goal to cut the Buckeyes lead to 24-20 but Ohio State quarterback J.T. Barrett converted two third downs on the game-sealing drive. Running back Mike Weber ran for 87 yards and two touchdowns for the Buckeyes.

Oct. 1

Illinois (2-6, 1-5)

Minnesota 40, Illinois 17

Minnesota scored 19 points in the fourth quarter to run away with the victory. The Gophers hit Illinois with a steady run game with high winds in the Windy City. Minnesota running backs Rodney Smith ran for 100 yards on 20 carries and two touchdowns and Shannon Brooks added 59 yards and a touchdown.

Oct. 15

Indiana (4-4, 2-3)

Indiana 42, Maryland 36

Indiana Head Coach Kevin Wilson put the ball in his offensive playmakers hands throughout the game and it paid off. Three Hoosiers ran for over 100 yards and five players scored rushing touchdowns. Running back Devine Redding ran for

130 yards and a touchdown for the Hoosiers.

Oct. 22

Purdue (3-5, 2-3)

Penn State 62, Purdue 24

After pulling off a victory at Ohio State, Penn State's second half scoring frenzy eased them to victory. The Nittany Lions outscored Purdue 45-7 in the second half. Quarterback Trace McSorley threw for 228 yards and three touchdowns and running back Saquon Barkley ran for 207 yards and two touchdowns.

Nov. 5

Ohio State (8-1, 5-1)

Ohio State 24, Northwestern 20

Ohio State running back Curtis Samuel broke the 17-17 tie with a three-yard rushing touchdown with 9:43 left in the game and Northwestern kicker Jack Mitchell made a 33-yard field goal to cut the Buckeyes lead to 24-20 but Ohio State quarterback J.T. Barrett converted two third downs on the game-sealing drive. Running back Mike Weber ran for 87 yards and two touchdowns for the Buckeyes.

Nov. 12

Minnesota (6-2, 3-2)

Minnesota 40, Illinois 17

Minnesota scored 19 points in the fourth quarter to run away with the victory. The Gophers hit Illinois with a steady run game with high winds in the Windy City. Minnesota running backs Rodney Smith ran for 100 yards on 20 carries and two touchdowns and Shannon Brooks added 59 yards and a touchdown.

Nov. 19

Maryland (5-3, 2-3)

Indiana 42, Maryland 36

Indiana Head Coach Kevin Wilson put the ball in his offensive playmakers hands throughout the game and it paid off. Three Hoosiers ran for over 100 yards and five players scored rushing touchdowns. Running back Devine Redding ran for 130 yards and a touchdown for the Hoosiers.

Nov. 25

Iowa (5-3, 3-2)

Wisconsin 17, Iowa 9

Iowa had a bye before traveling to Penn State on Nov. 5. In its last game, Wisconsin stopped Iowa's late surge recovering an on-side kick to seal the victory. Wisconsin's defense held the Hawkeyes to 236 yards on 60 plays. Quarterback C.J. Beathard completed 17-of-33 passing for 153 yards. Running back Akrum Wadley rushed 10 times for 44 yards and also had seven receptions for 72 yards.

Wide receiver Riley McCarron made six receptions for 47 yards and running back LeShun Daniels Jr. had 10 carries for 35 yards. The game marked the first time all season Iowa didn't score a touchdown.

This Week In Husker History

Nov. 6, 2010

Story by Kevin Houck • Huskers Illustrated Archives

This week in Husker football history, we take a short trip back in time. We are staying in the 2010s decade with a matchup against Iowa State (5-5) on Nov. 6, 2010 in Ames.

Nebraska (8-1) traveled to Ames as the No. 9 team in the nation for a Big 12 North showdown. The Huskers would survive an overtime thriller against the Cyclones with a 31-30 victory. Cornerback Eric Hagg intercepted Iowa State's two-point conversion attempt on a fake PAT. Nebraska entered the game with quarterback trouble. Starting quarterback Taylor Martinez did not start the game because of an ankle injury the previous week against Missouri.

Backup quarterback Zac Lee would not play because of a sore arm, leaving third-string quarterback Cody Green to make his first start of the season. But Green would take a big hit with three minutes remaining in the first quarter and leave to the sideline. Martinez would come into the game for one snap but it wouldn't be at quarterback.

Instead with Martinez injured, running back Rex Burkhead would take snaps out of the Wildcat formation for the first time all season. Burkhead took his first Wildcat snap for 29 yards to the Iowa State 46-yard line. Burkhead would continue to use the Wildcat the rest of the drive, carrying the ball six times for 52 yards. Running back Roy Helu Jr. capped off the drive with a six-yard rushing touchdown with 13:13 left in the second quarter. Helu finished the game with 99 yards rushing on 22 carries.

Green would return to the game but the Cyclones, with the wind at their backs, would take momentum before halftime.

Iowa State quarterback Austen Arnaud tied the game at 7-7 with a 13-yard touchdown to Jake Williams with 6:38 left in the first half. On Iowa State's next drive four-minutes later, kicker Grant Mahoney missed a 49-yard field goal to take the lead.

Two plays later, Helu Jr. was stripped and the ball was recovered by Iowa State at the Huskers 41-yard line. This time after the Blackshirts stopped the Cyclones for a three-and-out, Mahoney connected for a 57-yard field goal with under a minute left to send Iowa State into halftime with a 10-7 lead.

The Huskers received the ball to start the second half with the wind at their backs. Green and the Husker offense put together a

12-play, 55-yard drive that led to a 25-yard field goal by kicker Alex Henery to tie the game with 9:25 left in the third quarter.

After the Cyclones offense took over less than a minute later, safety Austin Cassidy jumped a slant route across the middle and intercepted Arnaud. Cassidy returned the interception 29 yards for a touchdown. Cassidy finished with 12 tackles to go along with his interception.

On Iowa State's ensuing drive, the Blackshirts came up with another big play. This time Hagg intercepted Arnaud at the Husker 44-yard line with 5:27 left in the third quarter. The Husker would capitalize with an 11-play, 56-yard drive. Green moved the chains through air on third down three times on the drive. Green threw for 79 yards on 7-of-12 passing with no interceptions or touchdowns. Burkhead ended the drive with a 2-yard touchdown to put Nebraska up 24-10 with 21 seconds left in the third quarter.

With the game looking in Nebraska's favor, the Cyclones found a way to fight back in the football game.

On Iowa State's next drive, Arnaud found the endzone on a one-yard quarterback keeper to cap off a 13-play, 75-yard drive with 11:29 left in the game.

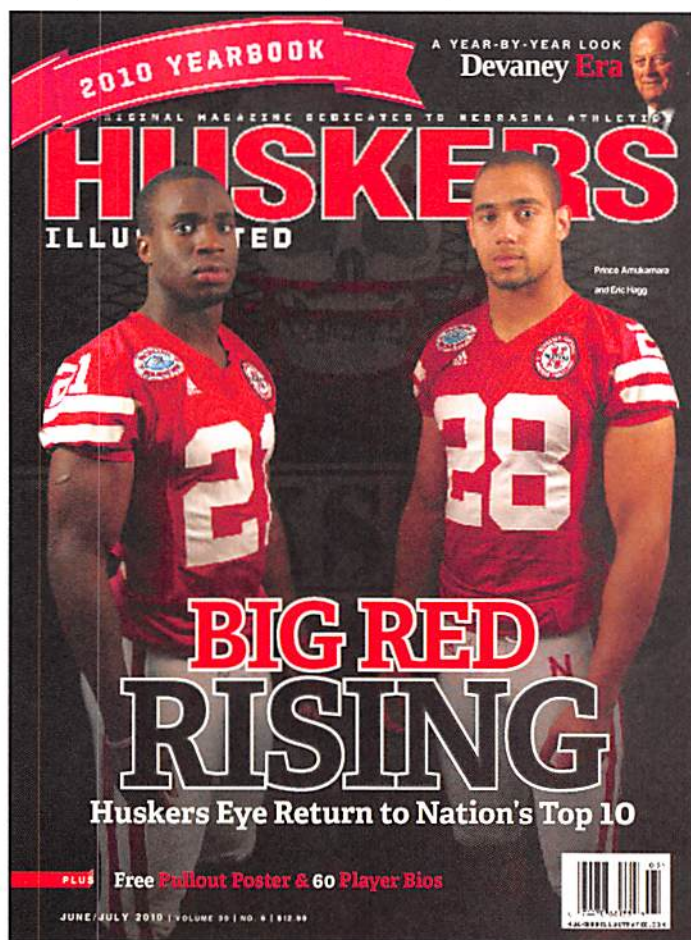
Nebraska wide receiver Niles Paul attempted to return the ball out of the endzone on the ensuing kickoff, but fumbled and turned the ball over at its own 13-yard line. Three plays later, Arnaud

completed a 14-yard touchdown pass to Alex Robinson to tie the game with 10:40 remaining. After Mahoney missed a 55-yard field goal attempt with 3:19 left, the Huskers couldn't move the ball close enough for a field goal attempt with the wind at their face.

In overtime, Burkhead had all 25 of Nebraska's yards and scored on a 19-yard rushing touchdown out of the Wildcat formation to put the Huskers up 31-24. Burkhead finished with 129 yards and two touchdowns.

The Cyclones responded with a nine-yard touchdown pass from Arnaud to Williams before Hagg intercepted Iowa State's two-point attempt for the Huskers 31-30 victory.

Despite scoring 31 points, the Huskers only managed 314 yards of total offense and 15 first downs compared to Iowa State's 360 total yards and 24 first downs.





A Stroll Down Rasmussen Road With **JOHN RUUD**

1978-79 Linebacker

Column by Butch Rasmussen • NU Media Relations

Oklahoma freshman Kelly Phelps must have thought one of those Burlington-Northern freight trains that passes the north side of Memorial Stadium had taken a detour onto the playing field on that day in 1978.

He had just taken a Nebraska kickoff from Husker kicker Billy Todd following Todd's field goal that gave the Huskers a 17-14 fourth quarter lead when he was totally annihilated by Husker John Ruud.

It was Nov. 11, 1978, big, big game in Lincoln. It had been a typical Oklahoma-Nebraska college football game, hyped from the first kickoff of the season until this date in November when the Sooners flew into Lincoln bringing with them the number one ranking in the country with Nebraska not far behind at number 4.

The score was 5 zip, Sooners. No, not the game score, Husker coach Tom Osborne hadn't beaten Sooner head coach Barry Switzer in the 5 games they'd played since Osborne took over from coach Bob Devaney in 1972 and Husker faithful were getting restless.

It was a packed house at Memorial Stadium that day and a nation-wide telecast.

You'll seldom find an offense more potent than the Sooners offered that day with their featured back, Billie Sims averaging nearly 8 yards every time he touched the ball and their total four man wishbone backfield averaging close to 7 yards per carry. Sims would win the Heisman Trophy a month later.

With that three-point lead and Billy Todd's kickoff things were falling into place for the event that would help define John Ruud's football career at Nebraska. Todd's kickoff was gathered in by Phelps at his ten yard line and he got back down field as far as the twenty and BAM! It was lights out and Phelps gave up 10 minutes of his life lying on his back on the stadium turf that he was never going to get back.

It was Ruud coming on strong from his position on the Husker kickoff team and as he approached Phelps there were three defenders between them. In an instant they all moved in opposite directions to take on other approaching Huskers and in the moment Ruud was set up for that rare hit defensive players dream about. The timing was perfect.

Phelps' immediately unconscious was still far from the ground when the ball popped out and Nebraska recovered at the Oklahoma 12 yard line but the officials said Phelps had been down before the ball came out. Replay showed that was far from true.



RUUD HAD ONE OF HIS MOST MEMORABLE PLAYS IN THE 1978 NEBRASKA VS. OKLAHOMA FOOTBALL GAMES.

The ball belonged to the Sooners and Nebraska faithful will remember the drive downfield and the crucial play at the Husker 3 yard line when it seemed Sims was sure to score on a 21 yard go-ahead touchdown but the ball was stripped and recovered by Husker monster back Jim Pillen with less than 3:27 remaining in the game.

Neither team added points and the 17-14 Husker victory brought Tom Osborne his first win over Oklahoma as head coach of the Huskers.

The name John Ruud earned instant stature that day in Husker lore when he put the imprint of his number 46 jersey right in the middle of Kelly Phelps chest. He was a Parade All-America linebacker at Thomas Jefferson High School in Bloomington, Minnesota who also played basketball and pitched for the baseball team. He received scholarship offers from most Big 8 schools as well as Notre Dame, Florida and Florida State. He signed with Nebraska after Tom Osborne made a visit to his home.

The name Ruud has been prominent in Husker scarlet and cream battle gear for years. Tom Ruud, John's brother, played linebacker for the Huskers from 1972-74 and Tom's sons Barrett ('01-'04) and Bo ('04-'07) came on 3 decades later. All were linebackers and Barrett became the all-time record holder for career tackles with 432.

It's a small world they say, proven again when John Ruud's daughter, Natalie took a job at the Billie Sims Bar-B-Q Restaurant in Durant, Oklahoma. Natalie told Billie her dad played in the decisive game against him back in 1978.

Sims told Natalie that hit by her dad on Kelly Phelps was the greatest hit he'd ever seen and that call by the officials when Phelps fumbled the ball, was the worst he'd ever seen.

It was all part of the excitement of the annual Husker / Sooner experience back in the day as they say.

Right off the Ranch

Connealy came from rural Nebraska to play for NU



Story By Shane G. Gilster

Photo courtesy of NU Media Relations

If you have aspirations to play for the Nebraska Cornhuskers, you'd better be good. If you play eight-man football from a small town in Nebraska, you'd better be great to even get noticed.

Terry Connealy was from a ranch located by Hyannis, Nebraska, a town with only a couple of hundred people in the heart of ranch country. It is located in the panhandle of western Nebraska, roughly 350 miles from Lincoln.

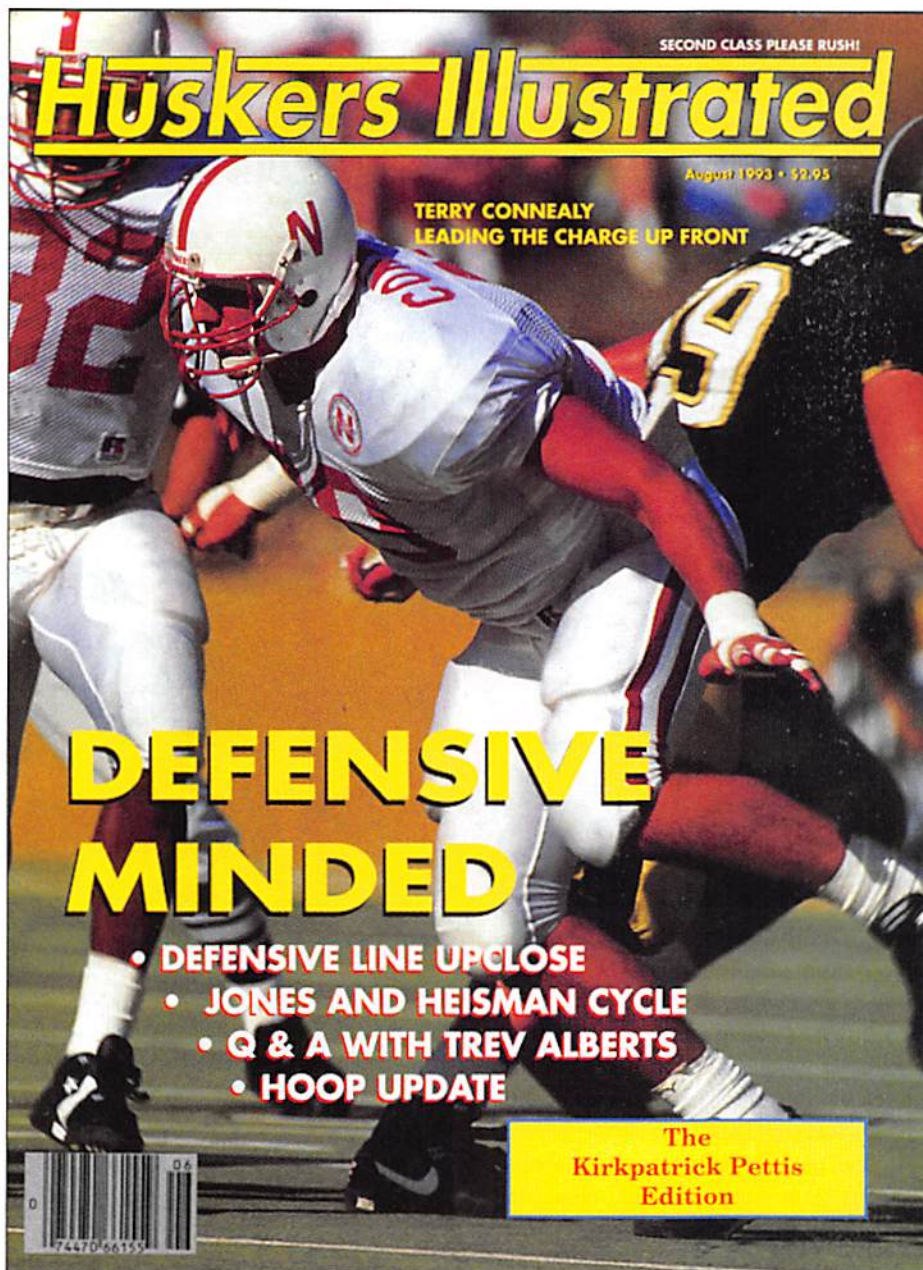
"The ranch has been in my mom's family forever. I am the youngest of seven kids, and we were all raised on the ranch. We had no fast food, no movies...we just worked on the ranch and went to school in Hyannis. We raised Angus cattle, and we still do today. I tell people I grew up in Whitman, a suburb of Hyannis, which is obviously a joke," Connealy laughed. "My best description of where Hyannis is located is if you were to cut off the panhandle of Nebraska, Hyannis is halfway down the line. It is about 60 miles west of Alliance and about 70 miles north of Ogallala."

In high school, Connealy stood 6-5 and weighed 235 pounds. He was a versatile all-state athlete, playing tight end, fullback, linebacker and monster back. Recruiting analyst Tom Lemming rated him No. 51 among offensive lineman nationally.

"Terry has great stature to play the game. He's strong and has really worked with the weights. I can see him getting bigger and stronger," his head coach, Chris Kraus, said when Connealy was being recruited.



Terry Connealy rushes the UCLA quarterback.



Nebraska and lead recruiter Dan Young noticed him and saw someone who was athletic and could run. So when they offered, Connealy accepted without hesitation.

"It was dream come true for me and my family. My dad was a scholarship recruit back in the '50s for Nebraska," Connealy said. "I then got a lot of interest from other schools but never pursued them," he added. "Before Nebraska offered I seriously considered Wyoming, they had recruited me pretty hard and knew they were going to offer me a scholarship. But Nebraska was first to the table and I committed to Coach (Tom) Osborne that I would not take any more trips. I was recruited as an

athlete, with the focus on tight end, line-backer or defensive line."

After graduation, Connealy arrived on the Nebraska campus for fall practice in 1990. He said he could have cared less where he ended up playing; he would just play wherever they could use him. But Defensive Coordinator Charlie McBride liked him on the defensive line.

After redshirting his first season, Connealy worked himself up the depth chart, eventually becoming the starting nose tackle as a junior in 1993 and a co-captain defensive tackle for the national championship squad in '94. He was a first-team All-Big 8 selection as a junior,

and was a first-team GTE Academic All-American as a junior and senior.

Not bad for being the first scholarship athlete from Hyannis, so you expect his success made the community of Hyannis brim with pride.

"Our community was very supportive, and everyone was really excited," Connealy said. "Everyone in Hyannis area liked having a connection to the team, and always wanted to know how the team was going to look. I had a senior day that the community put on for me. We had a big reception in Lincoln after the Oklahoma State game. Then we had one at the Hyannis High School after the bowl game."

So, what would Connealy, who now works in Omaha as the president of Mutual of Omaha Mortgage, tell kids who come from small rural Nebraska communities who have aspirations to play at a place like Nebraska?

"I would tell them they have to believe in themselves. I wasn't the only kid to make it at Nebraska...there have been a lot of kids who played eight-man and smaller eleven-man schools who have went on to play there. The one thing you got to do is work that much harder than everybody else. Don't take any plays off, and have a great work ethic. The thing that is suspect from recruiter's point of view is how good the talent is you are playing against. So you have to make up for that, and do everything in your power to get noticed."

If you do make it, according to Connealy, who has four children of his own, then you become one of the Nebraska kids who are the heart and soul of the program. They are the kids who grew up dreaming of playing in Lincoln, and they set the stage for that work ethic and what Nebraska football is all about.

"When I played, we had guys who were not from Nebraska and it spilled over to them on how important the program was to all of us," Connealy explained. "They saw it was about more than just one person, it was the state, it was the community. This is what we did and what we wanted to be known for, which was football. We all just bought into the program and trusted our coaches. A lot of high schools in the state emulated the Husker program...we were physical with a power running game and we outworked people. So when you got to Lincoln, you knew what the culture of the program was all about."

"It was a dream come true for me and my family. My dad was a scholarship recruit back in the '50s for Nebraska. I then got a lot of interest from other schools but never pursued them."

- Terry Connealy



Getting to Know

Women's Bowlers Julia Bond and Gazmine Mason

Story By Kevin Houck • Photos Courtesy of NU Media Relations



A pair of Husker bowlers head into the 2016 season with high expectations after an eventful offseason.

Junior Julia Bond and senior Gazmine Mason both earned NTCA All-American honors for their performances last season. Bond was first team and Mason earned third-team honors.

Both bowlers earned a place in the World Bowling Youth Championships for the singles and doubles competitions in late July.

"It was amazing," Bond said. "It was so much fun. It definitely was a different experience than anything I have ever done. I felt so fortunate to be able to do it and having Gazmine there with me that was a big plus. I had a blast with her."

In the singles competition, Mason defeated Bond in the semifinals and went on to win the gold medal. Her win marked the first girls' singles title for the United States at the World Youth Championships since 2000.

"It was a great feeling," Mason said. "Sometimes I don't really think anything of it but if I am struggling, my dad's always like, 'hey remember you're a world champion.' So I wouldn't say I forget but sometimes I know there is more to accomplish as well. If I am ever struggling hearing you're a world champion really helps my confidence."

Bond went on to win the bronze medal.

In the doubles competition the next day, Bond and Mason represented the USA 1 team. They earned the silver medal after being defeated by Korea in a best of three series.

"That was really fun to compete with her cause even though we are teammates we still have our own individual scores and so that was like the first time I have bowled with her," Bond said. "It was great."

Both competitions took place in Lincoln. Bond said having the championships in Lincoln brought a calmness throughout the weekend.

"I consider Lincoln as my second home so to be able to compete here with a place



JULIA BOND

I am so familiar with," Bond said. "I just felt so calm for the entire week because it's just somewhere I am so comfortable being in and to have Gazmine there it just felt like we were kind of in season even though we weren't. That's just kind of the vibe we had together."

In the past three years, the Nebraska Bowling team won a national championship and finished runner up twice.

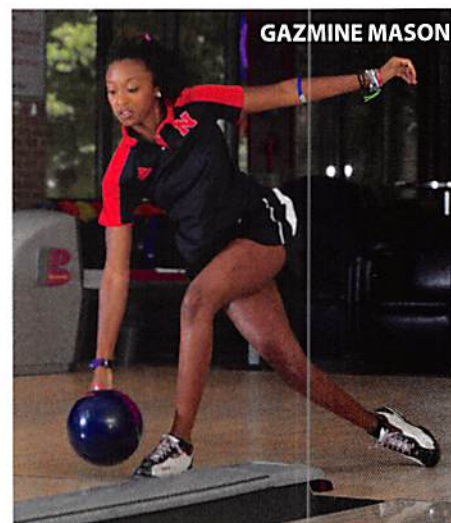
The Nebraska Bowling team lost last season in the national championship to Stephen F. Austin and they come into this season ranked preseason No. 1.

Mason said the loss served the team as motivation for this upcoming season.

"Finishing in second is the worst feeling ever," Mason said. "I don't ever want to feel like that again. So hopefully I can help the team and win gold because in my mind second place is the first loser. I want to go for the gold and I know my team does too."

So the Huskers have focused in the offseason on accountability. That starts with finishing frames.

"Picking up spares has been the focus because if you can't pick up your spares then it makes life even harder," Bond said. "Just kind of being accountable for your own shots, your own attitude and to be calm. To know if things aren't necessarily



GAZMINE MASON

going you're way that there's still a light at the end of the tunnel."

Bond and Mason head into the season as the Husker No. 1 and No. 2 bowlers and look to carry the load for the nation's preseason No. 1 ranked team.

Those heavy expectations start at the Wildcat Invitational in Orlando Fla., on October 21.

"Obviously our main goal is to win a national championship but if we focus one shot at a time and everyone does their job that we will succeed and do well. After going through practices, I think we are well prepared. Everyone's doing well."

NU defeats Iowa, qualifies for Big Ten Tourney

Courtesy NU Media Relations • Photo by Mitch Otto

The Nebraska soccer team (11-5-3, 5-3-3 Big Ten) defeated Iowa on Senior Night, 1-0, at Barbara Hibner Stadium on Wednesday, which earned the Huskers a spot in the Big Ten Tournament.

Senior Jaycie Johnson scored the lone goal of the night in the 50th minute off an assist from Haley Hanson. Johnson, who was honored on the field before the game along with fellow seniors Caroline Flynn, Sydney Miramontez and Courtney Claassen, scored her 11th goal this season. Johnson's goal also marked the 42nd of her career, tied for the sixth-most in program history.

Freshman goalkeeper Aubrei Corder, the reigning Big Ten Freshman of the Week and Defender of the Week, earned her fourth consecutive shutout and hasn't allowed a goal in over 400 minutes. Corder has nine shutouts this season.

NU begins the Big Ten Tournament on Sunday when the sixth-seeded Huskers face No. 3 seed Northwestern (20th in the NSCAA poll) in Evanston, Ill. The game is scheduled for 3 p.m. (CT), and will be televised live on the Big Ten Network.



2016 Women's Soccer Schedule

8-19 Marquette	W 2-1
8-22 @ BYU	W, 1-0
8-26 @ Oregon	L, 1-0
8-28 @ Oregon State	W, 2-1
9-2 Kansas	W, 1-0
9-4 Saint Louis	W, 2-1
9-9 Dayton	W, 3-1
9-11 @ Clemson	L, 5-2
9-16 Michigan State	W, 2-0
9-18 Michigan	L, 2-1
9-23 @ Ohio State	W, 3-0
9-25 @ Penn State	L, 2-1
9-30 Indiana	W, 1-0
10-6 @ Wisconsin	T, 1-1
10-9 @ Minnesota	L, 3-0
10-13 Illinois	W, 2-0
10-16 Northwestern	T, 0-0
10-22 @ Rutgers	T, 0-0
10-26 Iowa	W, 1-0
10-30 Northwestern Big Ten Tourney	
11-4 Big Ten Tournament	
11-6 Big Ten Tournament	

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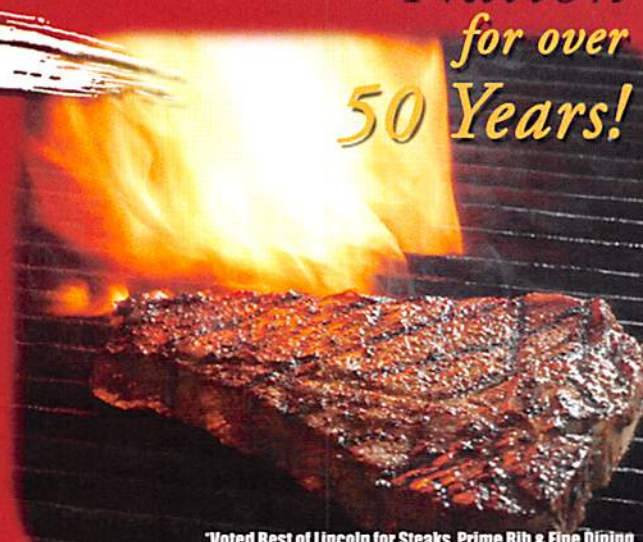
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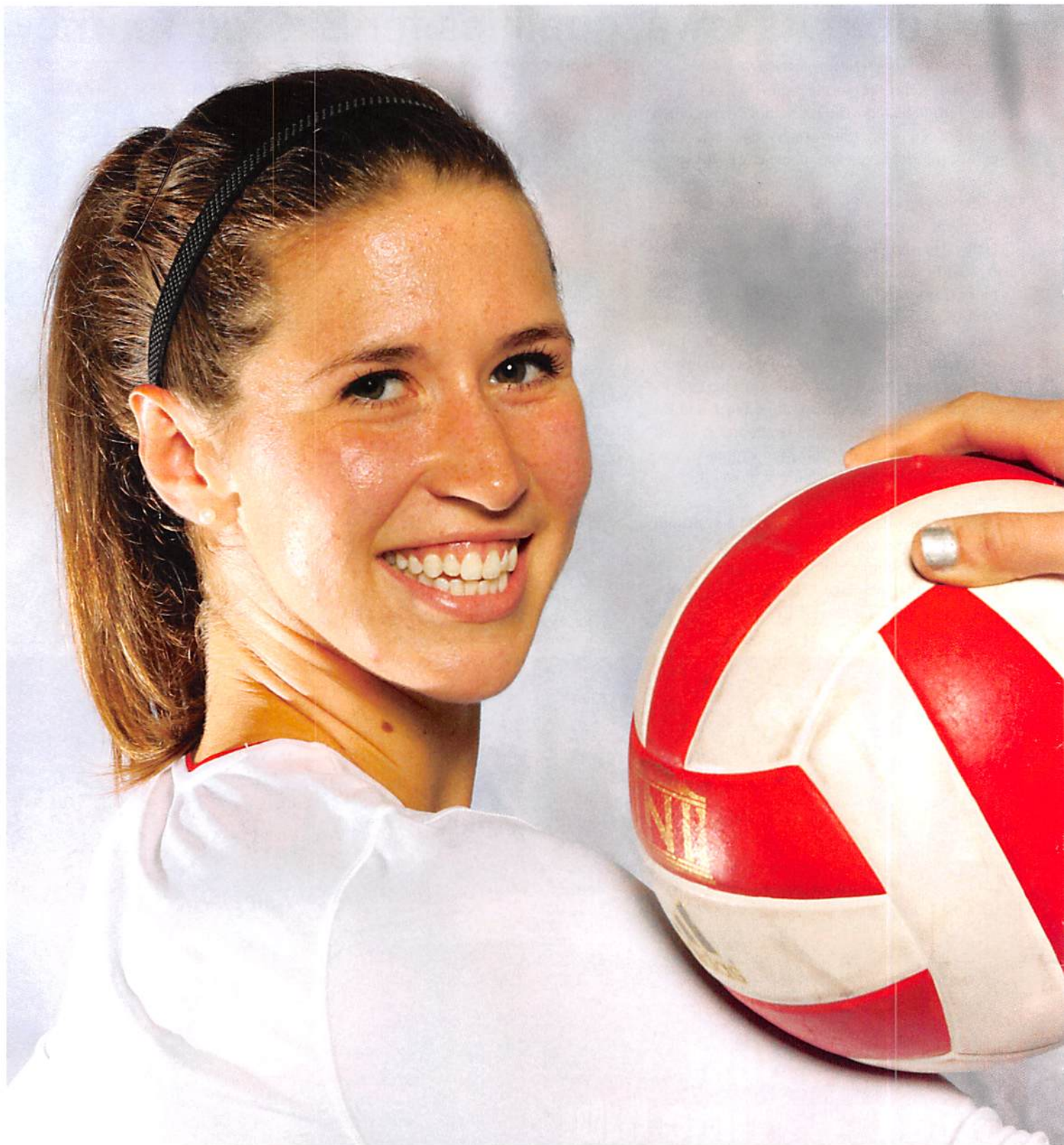
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Outside hitter Andie Malloy played for Iowa State and Baylor before transferring to Nebraska for her final year of college volleyball.

“I don’t know how many times I’ve been at a coffee shop or just out to dinner with my family and there will always be some kind of a fan who is like, ‘Hey, don’t you play for the Huskers?’ or ‘How you doing? We’re so happy you’re here. Welcome to Nebraska!’”

~ Andie Malloy



MALLOY'S PATH

Two-time transfer enjoying her final season in Lincoln

Story by Bob Hamar • Portrait Photo by Mitch Otto

Andie Malloy took a different path to the Nebraska volleyball program.

It first went through Ames, Iowa, where she played as a freshman for Iowa State. Then it was on to Baylor the next season, but because she was transferring within the Big 12 Conference she had to sit out a year.

Malloy played for the Bears for two years and decided she wanted something different. She was a graduate student so basically she could go anywhere she wanted, and where she wanted to go was Lincoln.

"I knew I wanted to come to Nebraska, just the girls and the coaches and just an overall feeling when I was on my visit," Malloy said. "I approached this as a really big opportunity to take what I can from it and work my hardest and be there for my teammates and get to know them in a short amount of time, and just learn to accept whatever role because this is a group of really talented girls.

"I could tell that the first day of two-a-days and even before that this summer when we were training, in the weight room and even in open gym."

Malloy knew there was an opportunity for playing time at Nebraska. The Huskers lost outside hitter Kelsey Fien from last year's national championship team, so somebody was going to have to fill that spot.

Malloy knew it wasn't going to be easy to earn playing time for the Huskers.

"I knew it was going to be a battle and it still is," Malloy said. "I just approached every day as trying to get better and learning all that I can. I am approaching this as steps to help me grow as a person and as a player."

Malloy has been up and down at times for the Huskers. As of Oct. 23, she was third on the team in kills (136, 2.43 per set).

"I think she's just been OK," coach John Cook said earlier this season. "She's had some good moments and she's had some rough moments."

Malloy doesn't serve much in Cook's system, but she did step in to deliver the match-ending ace against Ohio State when the Huskers basically ran out of subs.

"Andie gets a lot of out of system stuff. She has to be really good at managing the game," Cook said. "And so will Mikaela (Foecke). When we're in system we're probably setting the middles and right sides, so those guys have to do a good job of managing the game because they're not going to be the first option every time."

Now the Huskers are into the second half of the Big Ten season with just four weeks left in the regular season. Malloy said her first and only season with the Huskers is going fast.

"It's just flying by, but I've loved it," Malloy said. "I've loved the girls and the coaches and all of the resources that we are so privileged to have. It's incredible the amount of support and love for the Huskers that the entire community has."

"I don't know how many times I've been at a coffee shop or just out to dinner with my family or out and about shopping, there will always be some kind of a fan who is like, 'Hey, don't you play for the Husker volleyball team?', or 'How you doing? We're so happy you're here. Welcome to Nebraska.'"

The volleyball part of it is getting better too. It's not easy stepping into what is widely regarded as the top volleyball conference in the nation.

"It is getting easier," Malloy said. "I'm still striving every day to get to know my teammates. Everyone on the team does a great job of supporting each other, and knowing we have the same common goal. We want to succeed and we want each other to perform at their best."

out and about shopping,
volleyball team?,
.”

2016 Schedule

VERT Challenge at Eugene, Oregon

Aug. 26	Florida	W, 3-1
Aug. 27	Texas	W, 3-0

Nebraska Invite at Lincoln, Nebraska

Sept. 2	Iowa State	W, 3-0
Sept. 3	Oregon State	W, 3-0

Lobo Classic at Albuquerque, N.M.

Sept. 8	Montreal (Exh.)	W, 3-0
Sept. 9	Arkansas	W, 3-0
Sept. 10	New Mexico	W, 3-0

Ameritas Challenge at Devaney Center

Sept. 16	Montana State	W, 3-0
Sept. 16	Gonzaga	W, 3-0
Sept. 17	Creighton	W, 3-1

Sept. 23	at Michigan	W, 3-0
Sept. 24	at Mich. State	W, 3-2
Sept. 28	at Illinois	W, 3-0
Oct. 1	Ohio State	L, 3-1
Oct. 7	Indiana	W, 3-0
Oct. 9	Purdue	W, 3-0
Oct. 14	at Ohio State	W, 3-1
Oct. 16	at Maryland	W, 3-0
Oct. 21	Wisconsin	W, 3-0
Oct. 23	Minnesota	W, 3-2
Oct. 28	Illinois	W, 3-0
Oct. 29	Northwestern	W, 3-0
Nov. 4	at Penn State	7 p.m.
Nov. 5	at Rutgers	6 p.m.
Nov. 9	Iowa	6 p.m.
Nov. 12	at Indiana	6 p.m.
Nov. 16	Penn State	7 p.m.
Nov. 19	at Iowa	6:30 p.m.
Nov. 23	at Minnesota	8 p.m.
Nov. 26	Michigan	7 p.m.
Dec. 1-3	NCAA 1st, 2nd Rds	TBD
Dec. 9-10	NCAA Regionals	- TBD
Dec. 15	NCAA Semis	at Columbus,
Dec. 17	NCAA Finals	at Columbus

DREAMING BIGGER

NEBRASKA VOLLEYBALL NOTEBOOK

Compiled by Bob Hamar • Photo by Reggie Ryder

REUNION AT BOB DEVANEY CENTER

The Huskers had some special visitors at the Devaney Center for matches against Wisconsin and Minnesota on Oct. 21 and 23. Players from the 1986 Final Four team, the 1996 Final Four team and the 2006 national championship team were there.

Nebraska coach John Cook said he was amazed at what the 1986 team accomplished.

"That '86 team really put Nebraska volleyball on the map," Cook said. "They made people get interested by going to the Final Four. That was the first non-west coast team to go to the Final Four."

And now, 30 years later, volleyball is alive and well in Nebraska, and it's not just the Husker program.

Teams like Wayne State and Midland University are doing well in the lower divisions, as is Hastings College which was ranked No. 2 in the NAIA national ratings.

Laura Pilakowski, who played for the Huskers from 1999 to 2002, was also there. Her husband, Matt Buttermore, is head coach at Hastings College.

"It's just mind boggling how big volleyball and how good it is in this state," Cook said. "The other interesting thing is I was talking to Matt Buttermore and he's starting six kids from Nebraska on his Hastings team.

We're starting a lot. Look how many good players there are in this state. It's crazy when you think about it. It's also real cool."

COOK IS 'COACH' TO PLAYERS

Cook has just been "coach" to all his players throughout his career. All but two that is.

His daughter Lauren, a former player who now does some radio work, calls him "coach" on the radio but he is "Dad" away from volleyball. And then there's junior Annika Albrecht.

"Anni is just fun, sarcastic, tells jokes goofy, keeps everybody loose," Cook said. "She's the only player that calls me by my first name...ever...in the history of Nebraska volleyball."

Cook said he would like more players to call him by his first name, but most have told him they don't feel comfortable doing that.

Cook said even Nebraska director of operations Lindsay Peterson, who played for the Huskers from 1999 to 2002, still

calls him coach.

"Unless she's mad at me, then she calls me by my first name," he said.

SETTING THE MIDDLES

The Huskers seem to be getting their middle attack going. They struggled with it the first half of the season, but really broke loose Oct. 23 against Minnesota when Briana Holman had 17 kills and hit .469 and Amber Rolfzen tallied 16 and hit .519.

The middle attack is often one of the last facets of the offense to come together because a lot goes into it. Plus the Husker middle blockers require different sets from setter Kelly Hunter.

"Bri can touch the top of the up so that's where her set needs to be," Cook said. "Amber can get up there pretty close, so she needs to be a little lower. Amber is faster off the ground and has a faster arm."

In the end, it comes down to timing between the setter and the middles.

"Setters think faster means lower, but faster doesn't mean lower," Cook said. "Bri jumps high but needs more time in the air to hang to the ball needs to be up there around the top of the antenna"

"That's what we kind of tell Kelly. If you're not setting it up at the top of the antennae, you're not getting it high enough."



Kadie Rolfzen and Briana Holman make a block.

HUSKERS TURN THE TABLES

That weekend with wins over No. 3 Minnesota and No. 4 Wisconsin was just what the Huskers needed. Last year, the Gophers and Badgers came into the Devaney Center and beat the Huskers on back-to-back nights. Cook admitted Monday morning after the win over the Gophers he was awake at 3 a.m. contemplating his next step with his team.

"Just like last year, we lost both of these matches and it didn't determine our season," Cook said. "Winning them doesn't determine how we finish out."

The Huskers will be playing for a top national seed down the stretch. Some of their opponents are just trying to get into the tournament.

"These teams they're going to be playing are fighting for their lives to get into the tournament," Cook said. "I've talked to them about each week it gets bigger and bigger and the ante goes up."

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